

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

**HQ FILE: 100-50869**

**SECTION 7**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

## NOTICE

**THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.**

b7c



November 3rd, 1953.

9

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Information,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Recently here in Ft Worth there has been a chapter of the Council of Churches of Christ in America organized and I have been invited to become one of the vice presidents of the organization.

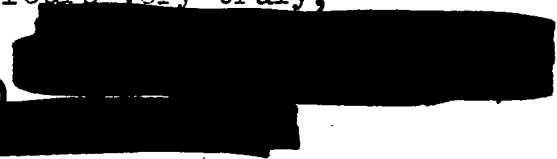
I believe there have been some charges made against this organization that it has been identified with Communists or fellow travelers in the past.

Without involving a great amount of work on your part would it be possible for you to give me some information or advice as to the present status of that organization and its present official personnel. I am referring to the National organization.

I feel that there is a great work for this organization to do but before aligning myself with it in an official capacity I want to be as sure as possible that it has purged itself of all criticism or cause for criticism.

Will appreciate any information you can give me in this matter.

Yours very truly,



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ewj/pt  
b7c

name  
ack 11-6-53  
to [unclear]

RECORDED - 35

EX - 101

1100-50869-244  
NOV 4 1953  
10

EXP. PROC.  
NOV 4 1953  
CRIME

November 6, 1953

RECORDED - 35

INDEXED - 35 100-50869-244

ICT-X

b7c

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 3, 1953, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

COMM-FBI  
NOV 6 1953  
MAILED 18

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

RW

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ELT:dep

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [Signature]

[Handwritten signature]

EL

NOV 16 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : Attention: Statistical Section  
SAC, New York (94-0)  
SUBJECT: RESEARCH MATTER  
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

DATE: 11/6/53

G.I.R. 7

om 4-1  
Best

Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America

Rebulet 10/22/53 requesting latest information relative to the number of church members in the US.

DONALD C. BOLLES, Executive Director, Public Relations Department, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, made available the following publications which disclose detailed information concerning church membership:

NEWS--news release for August 24, 1953--Statistical Highlights from "The 1953 Yearbook of American Churches."

NEWS--news release for August 24, 1953--New Church Statistics: A preview of 1953 Yearbook of American Churches.

The National Council of Churches--What is it? What does it do?

The above publications are being enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau

Enc. (3) - 2000  
in Church  
records 11-20-53  
JD

FBI REC'D

RECEIVED

ha

RECORDED - 68  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/13/83 BY SP4/whf

100-50869-2441  
~~14-1 31672-11~~

NOV 24 1953

ENCLO. ATTACHED

MR. Nichols  
RECEIVED  
NOV 18 1953  
RECEIVED

MAY 11 3 1959

79 DEC 2 - 1953

WB TOME

3 Enclosures to Bureau

Re: RESEARCH MATTER  
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Attn: Statistical Section

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/12/83 BY SPK/klm

100-50869-244X

ENCLOSURE

**National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the United States of America**

**297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.**

**the NATIONAL  
COUNCIL of  
CHURCHES**

**what is it?**

**what does it do?**

100-50869-244 X

~~94-1-31672-11~~

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

D

b7c

[Redacted]

11 November 1953

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D.C.

*Janet*  
*MS*

Dear Mr. Hoover: National Council of Churches

It has long been my impression that you share the same opinion that I do. That is, that the churches in our country have a tremendously good influence upon the moral social behavior of its citizens.

I have been attempting to square off, what has been called a religious resurgence in America, as indicated by an increase in church membership, with what I have been told is coincidental with an alarming increase in the divorce, suicide, and crime rates. I have no figures for either the religious resurgence or the asocial rates.

What conclusions can we reach from the above social behavior? Should we re-evaluate our opinions concerning the influence of church membership on social behavior? Just what, if anything, does all this great joy in the church membership increase really mean? Is it something about which there is good cause to rejoice?

b7c

Yours very truly,

[Redacted Signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/els/pj

COPIES DESTROYED  
 EXP. 11-17-53  
 11/17/53

*ms*  
*ack 11-17-53*  
*HPL*

RECORDED - 10 1100-50869-245  
 INDEXED - 10 NOV 25 1953  
 EX-112



November 18, 1953

100-50869-245

RECORDED - 10

EX-112

b7C

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I very much appreciate the interest which prompted your writing me on November 11, 1953, and I am taking the liberty of enclosing some material which sets forth my views regarding your inquiries. I do hope this data will be helpful.

You might be interested in knowing that the Associated Press on August 24, 1953, reported that the National Council of Churches estimated the total church membership stood at 92,877,129 at the end of 1952. At this time the Council announced that the church membership for 1952 represented a 4.1 per cent increase over the previous year.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/STP/STP  
CUC/COB/STP/STP

Director's Statement 3-26-51  
Crime Problem  
Sunday School Key to Tomorrow  
Crime Challenges the Churches  
Crime & the Sunday School  
UCR Annual 1952  
UCR Semiannual 1953

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
F B I  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
NOV 18 5 53 PM '53  
11/18  
WPN  
WML

DEC 2 1953  
HPL:dep:pa pp

MAILED 8  
NOV 19 1953

Nov. 26/1953

Dear Sir; (y)

Would you please send me any and all information you possibly can on the "National Council of Churches".

Is there such a book as "How Red is the Federal Council"? - If so could I please get about a dozen of them

RECORDED-65

100-750969-246

INDEXED-65

NOV 8 1953

I would appreciate

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP/...

that you have. I thank you very much.

12/3/53 DIC (gas) [signature]

over

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

b7C

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED

NOV 27 10 40 AM '53

MR. JONES

REC'D. RECORDS SE

NOV 27 10 12 AM '53

11-27

TRUE COPY

Nov 24, 1953

Dear Sir,

Would you please send me any and all information you possibly can on the "National Council of Churches".

Is there such a book as "How Red Is the Federal Council"? - If so could I please get about a dozen of them?

I would appreciate any thing that you have.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

/s/ [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ew/ld

December 9, 1953

RECORDED-65

100-50869-244

INDEXED-65

[REDACTED]

EX-102

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 24, 1953, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

In response to your request, I regret to advise, furthermore, that we do not have information available for distribution relative to the publication you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

MAILED 5  
DEC 11 1953  
COMM-FBI

2/2/83 BY SP4/du/ok

CC - Denver, with copy of inclosure.

ATTENTION SAC: The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the Federal Council of Churches, as well as the pamphlet entitled "How Red Is The Federal Council of Churches?", issued by the American Council of Christian Laymen, Madison, Wisconsin. An investigation confined to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of this organization. The pamphlet attempts to show that the Federal Council is Communistic and includes a statement of the

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Director which is accurate, although incomplete, and is taken from his statement before the Un-American Activities Committee. (100-50869)

DIC: jas 100-356

52 DEC 11 1953

obj [signature] dic

Mr J Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D.C. (4)  
Dear Sir: EXP. PROC.

DEC 1 1953

If you are interested in having  
about some Communist  
in Churches with  
Radio Station for  
a tape recording of  
Mr P. H. Zwick's  
sermon at W.C.W.U.  
Canton, Ohio, he says  
several in his sermon  
in the Technical Annual  
of Churches.

RECORDED BY 455869-24  
INDEXED BY 455869-24  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-1-83 BY SP-5  
[Redacted]

b7c

TRUE COPY

Mr. J Edgar Hoover  
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir:

If you are interested in learning about  
some Communists in Churches write Radio  
Station for a tape recording of Mr. P. A.  
Welchmers sermon at WCMW Cantors Ohio.

He name several in his serman in the  
Federal Council of Churches. You can get  
at tape recording there.

Yours truly

b7c  
/s/ [REDACTED]

A F E  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

TRUE COPY

9/11  
RECORDED-88  
INDEXED-88

EX-125

December 4, 1953

100-50869-247

[Redacted]

b7c

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter postmarked November 30, 1953, has been received and the motives which prompted your communication are indeed appreciated.

In the event you obtain additional data which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, you may desire to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Cleveland Office located at 900 Standard Building, Cleveland 13, Ohio.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/2/83 BY SP4/...

cc - 1 - Cleveland (with copy of incoming)

MJR:rw

DEC 4 7 49 PM '53  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
E. B. I.  
DEC 4 1 01 PM '53  
REC'D - 10120M.2 OFFICE

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAILED 8  
DEC 7 - 1953  
COMM - FBI

DEC 4 11 05 AM '53  
E. B. I.  
RECEIVED - FBI

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "FBI" and "FBI/2".



b7c

[Redacted]  
9-23-53

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D. C.  
Dear Sir -

Would you please send me  
the information on "The National  
Council of Churches".

Very truly yours

[Redacted]

b7c

DN

RECORDED-57

100-50269-248

DEC 9 1953

EX-104

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/2/83 BY SPH/whf

DIC  
[Signature]

TR COPY

b7C

[REDACTED]

11-23-53

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir -

Would you please send me the information  
on "The National Council of Churches".

Very truly yours

b7C

/s/

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/shr/et

December 3, 1953

RECORDED-57  
INDEXED-57

100-50869-248

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated November 23, 1953, has been received.

Although I wish it were possible to be of assistance, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

CC - Denver, with copy of inclosing.

ATTENTION SAC: The Bureau has received numerous inquiries relative to the Federal Council of Churches. An investigation confined to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of this organization.

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Gandy
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

BAW/GARDNER

DEC 3 1953  
COMM - FBI

DEC 15 1953

DEC 7 15 12 44 53  
RECEIVED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/23/83 BY [Signature]

DEC 18 1953

[Redacted]

b7c

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

November 30, 1953

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Un-American Activities Division,  
Washington, D. C.

CG-1

Dear Sir:

I have heard several times of late that the National Council of Churches, or at least the head men in this organization, are pro-communist and that the organization is a front for communism.

To satisfy my own mind I thought I would write to inquire if this organization had been investigated and if there was any "stigma" put on the National Council of Churches.

I am a member of the local Methodist Church of the Colorado Conference which I understand is affiliated with the National Council of Churches and several of we members were wondering just how much truth there is in the rumors.

If you have any literature or information available I would appreciate receiving same.

Thanking you for your courtesy in the above matter, I am,

Very truly yours,

[Redacted signature]

ack 12-4-53  
Cet

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/STJ

RECORDED-67

INDEXED-67

100-50869-249

DEC 2 1953

EXP. PROC.  
DEC 2 1953

[Handwritten initials]

December 4, 1953

RECORDED-6Z

100-50869-249

G.L.R.-3

[Redacted]

24-1  
24-1

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of November 30, 1953, and appreciate the interest which prompted you to write me.

With reference to your inquiry, I thought you might like to know that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. In addition, the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations concerning the character or integrity of any organization or individual. I know that you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECEIVED  
DEC 4  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Much of this data has come from rival church groups and investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 uncovered no information indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Geany \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ELT:ljg  
DEC 18 1953

MAILED 6  
DEC 7 1953  
COMM-FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/10/80 BY SP/...

20710  
u

b7c

[Redacted]

Jan 4 - 1954

J. Edgar Hoover  
Bureau of the American Activities  
Commission

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:-

Please send me all the in-  
formation you have on Communism  
in Churches. Especially the National  
Council of Churches.

Yours Respectfully,

[Redacted Signature]

NATIONAL Council of Churches

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/clw/ll

act  
DIC

RECORDED-1

EX-124

100-50869-50

JAN 15 1954

[Handwritten initials]

See

EXP. PROC.  
JAN 9 1954

TR COPY

b7c

Jan 4-1954

J. Edgar Hoover  
Bureau of Un American Activities  
Commission

Washington D. C.  
Dear Sir. -

Please send me all the information you have on  
Communism in Churches. Especially the National Council  
of Churches.

Yours Respectfully,

/S/

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 dw/af

January 11, 1954

RECORDED-1

INDEXED-1

100-50869-250

EX-124  
b7C



Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated January 4, 1954, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI does not have any material available for distribution on the specific topics you mentioned.

In this connection, I would like to point out that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. You might further be interested in knowing that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 5  
JAN 12 1954  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: It is to be noted that several inquiries from individuals in [Redacted] recently have been answered in Crime Records Section relative to subversive tendencies of those associated with the National Council of Churches.

An investigation confined to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office re this organization in 1940; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of its members.

- BAUMGARDNER
- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Gearty
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

58 JAN 18 1954

DIC:nma

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/21/83 BY [Signature]

[Handwritten notes and initials]



b7c



Jan. 11, 1954

Mr. J. Hoover

Director of F.B.I.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

My last correspondence with you was in question of 'red touch' in the National Council of Christian Churches while I was attending International School of the Bible at Portland Oregon.

I tonight hear a Mr. Cunningham of this city speak on Zionist-Communism in U.S.A. I am thinking of joining his approved - Hollywood freedom-group. How does your bureau feel towards the mentioned organization? Is what he say true? Is situation in world

ack  
CEM  
1/15/54  
NML

affairs threatened by Zionist-Red group? Is U.N. Red-child "child" group? Is

EX-126

JAN 20 1954

I of course intend to approach this with all prudence. Appreciate immediate response from you immediately.

Respectfully



b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/...

U

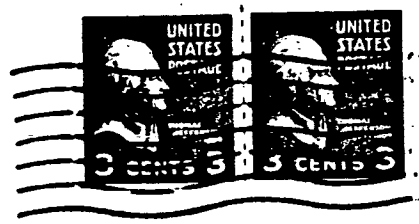
)



b7c



b7c



Mr. Edgar S. Hoover

Director of F. B. I.

Washington D.C.

Washington

Via Air Mail

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/klj/af

TRUE COPY

b7c

[Redacted]

Jan. 11, 1954

Mr. E. Hoover  
Director of F.B.I.

Dear Sir:

My last correspondence with you was in question of Red touch in the National Council of Christian Churches while I was attending Multnomah School of the Bible at Portland, Oregon.

I tonight hear a Mr. Cunningham of this city speak on Zionist Communism in U. S.A. I am thinking of joining his approved - Hollywood freedom - group. How does your bureau feel towards he & mentioned organization? Is what he say true? Is situation in world affairs threatened by "Zionist - Red" group? Is U.N. Red - "child"?

I of course intend to approach this with all prudence. Appreciate immensley, hearing from you immediately.

Respectfully /s/ [Redacted]

b7c

ack  
GEM  
1-15-54

(ms)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/2/83 BY SP/...

RECORDED-2  
INDEXED-2  
EX-126  
100-50869-251

January 15, 1954

b7c  
[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of January 11, 1954, has been received, and I appreciate the concern which prompted your writing me.

While I would like to be of service, I must advise that data in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would also like to point out that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/klj/af

MAILED 8  
JAN 18 1954  
COMM-FBI

NOTE: Bufiles reflect that by postal card dated 10/27/51, correspondent requested information concerning the Federal Council of Churches of Christ and the National Council of the Churches of Christ. Bulet of 10/19/51, acknowledged his letter and furnished him reprints on the subject of Communism. By letter dated 10/25/51, correspondent indicated he was a student of a Bible school in Portland, Oregon, and set forth his comments regarding the Federal Council of Christian Churches.

(Note continued on second page).

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 JAN 27 1954

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
JAN 15 10 19 PM '54  
FBI  
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

b7c



January 15, 1954

He enclosed literature of a "modernistic Communistic nature" regarding the modernism in the Methodist church. He wanted to know why the Director was not informing the public of this information concerning the church. His letter was not acknowledged in view of the nature of its contents.

It is deemed advisable to give him the above reply in an effort to discourage future correspondence from him. (100-50869).

CLASSIFIED

b7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(2)

February 2, 1954

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just received a pamphlet from the American Council of Churches, 15 Park Row, New York 7, N.Y. which states that your bureau is contemplating an investigation of the subversive activities of the National Council of Churches of Christ.

It further states that you have "quite a file on the subversive activities of prominent leaders of the Federal (National) Council."

I realize that there may be reasons why you could not answer my question, but if you can, I would like to know if these statements are true.

As a minister of a member denomination of the National Council, such published statements disturb me, for I doubt their truth. Therefore, I would like your verification.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

b7C

7000  
ack  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 ch/ab

EXP. PROC.  
FEB 5 1954

RECORDED-19 1100 - 50869 - 25  
FEB 12 1954

EX-115

INDEXED

RECORDED-19

INDEXED-19

100-50869-252

February 10, 1954

b7c EX-115

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of February 2, 1954, has been received.

While I would like to be of service in connection with your inquiries, I must advise that data in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would also like to point out that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization, publication, or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

COMM-FBI  
FEB 10 1954  
MAILED 19

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECEIVED FEB 10 1954  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no base was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

(100-50869)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP1/eh/wh

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

53 FEB 18 1954  
GEN:pa

gen

Copy: sdc

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

March 30, 1954

*gm*  
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am pleased to have your letter of March 22 and your statement regarding the extent to which agents of the FBI are now Roman Catholics.

I would be pleased if Dr. Barnes, my associate, and I might have an opportunity to talk with you regarding this and other matters of common interest. I am going to be in Washington on Thursday, April 8, in connection with two other appointments. If we could see you on the afternoon of the 7th we would be pleased to come down in advance of these appointments in order to talk with you.

Following our conversations I hope that I can send a report to the staff according to your suggestion.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Roy G. Ross  
Roy G. Ross  
General Secretary

RGR:rm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP/ckh/ef

100-50869 ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
126 APR 14 1954

60 MAY 3 1954

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-50869-59



March 22, 1954

Dr. Roy G. Ross  
General Secretary  
National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the United States of America  
297 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

Dear Dr. Ross:

The March issue of Eternity Magazine carries an article entitled "The Nature of Our Danger" by Dr. Donald G. Barnhouse, Editor of this publication. In this article Dr. Barnhouse asserts "The first is the staggering figure obtained from a highly placed person in the Department of Justice that seventy-seven per cent of all Agents of the FBI are now Roman Catholics." Since this statement is absolutely untrue, and since Dr. Barnhouse has been repeating this statement in public addresses, we have endeavored to communicate to Dr. Barnhouse the true facts. A copy of my letter to Dr. Barnhouse is attached.

I am communicating with you, however, since Dr. Barnhouse stated that prior to using these figures, he had discussed these figures with officials high in the National Council of Churches, along with other religious leaders, and that all had agreed he should make this disclosure. I hope it will be possible for you to call to the attention of the responsible officials of the National Council of Churches the fact that there is no possible basis for the erroneous representation which Dr. Barnhouse has made.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 6  
MAR 24 1954  
COMM - FBI

RECORDED-41  
INDEXED-15766-54869  
MAR 25 1954  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
253

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure

cc: SAC, New York (with copy of letter to Dr. Donald G. Barnhouse)

cc: Mr. Jones

LBN:MP

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

MAR -2 1954

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-106901-189

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: April 6, 1954

FROM : M. A. Jones

Tolson	_____
Ladd	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Clegg	_____
Glavin	_____
Harbo	_____
Rosen	_____
Tracy	_____
Mohr	_____
Trotter	_____
Wingo	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

SUBJECT: TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM  
 Reverend Roy G. Ross  
 General Secretary  
 National Council of the Churches of Christ  
 in the U. S. A.

G. I. R. - 1

The Bureau has received a telegram from Reverend Roy G. Ross, General Secretary, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York, dated April 2, 1954, in which he states that he appreciates the Director's wire but prefers to wait for an appointment with the Director personally.

It will be recalled that "Eternity Magazine" recently carried an article stating that seventy-seven per cent of the agents of the FBI are Roman Catholic. A letter was sent to Dr. Donald G. Barnhouse pointing out the falsity of such a statement. In subsequent communications with the Bureau, Dr. Barnhouse stated he had discussed these figures with high officials of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., and other individuals prominent in the religious field. He stated that these persons felt these statistics should be printed.

The Director on March 22, 1954, wrote to Reverend Ross, making reference to Dr. Barnhouse's comments, and pointed out that no statistics are compiled concerning the religious beliefs of our employees.

Reverend Ross wrote the Director on March 30, 1954, acknowledging the Bureau's letter of March 22 and stated that he would be in Washington on April 7 and 8, 1954, and would call at the Bureau on the afternoon of April 7, and would like to talk with the Director. A telegram was sent to Reverend Ross on April 1, 1954, advising him that the Director would be unavailable when he would be in the city and suggested that he confer with Mr. Nichols.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** 1. That the attached letter be sent to Reverend Ross advising him that it is not possible for the Director to make an appointment to see him in view of the uncertainty of his schedule.

2. Should Reverend Ross call at the Bureau, it is recommended that he be referred to Mr. Nichols for interview.

cc - Mr. Nichols  
 cc - Mr. Holloman

Attachment sent 4-7-54

ET:mbk

RECORDED - 4 710-32869-254  
 APR 18 1954  
 INDEXED INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12/2/83 BY SP [signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 2 1954

WESTERN UNION

V

BI WUD063 PD

WUX NEW YORK NY APR 2 423PME

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER DIRECTOR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

① NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

APPRECIATE YOUR COURTEOUS WIRE. FOR SPECIAL REASON

PREFER TO WAIT FOR APPOINTMENT WITH YOU PERSONALLY

ROY G ROSS

541P..

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Boardman	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Holloman	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

gg 8-1

cy

mail  
ack 4-7-54  
memo Jones - Nichols  
4-6-54  
elt

RECORDED - 9

100-50869-255

APR 12 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

COPIES DESTROYED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/elt

28 JAN 9 1974

PR M Nichols

April 7, 1954

RECORDED - 9 100-50869-255

G. L. R. - 1

Reverend Roy G. Ross  
General Secretary  
National Council of the Churches  
of Christ in the U. S. A.  
297 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

27 8-1

Dear Mr. Ross:

Your telegram of April 2, 1954, has been received.

While I would like very much to talk with you, my schedule is so uncertain that it is not possible for me to make a definite appointment to see you. The next time you are in Washington, however, please stop by my office. Should I be unavailable, Mr. L. B. Nichols or one of my other assistants will be happy to confer with you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

cc - Mr. Nichols, with copy of the aing.

cc - Mr. Holloman, with copy of the aing.

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR  
F B I  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
APR 7 12 38 PM '54

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
F B I  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
APR 7 12 14 PM '54

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ELT:mbk

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP/...

COMM - FBI  
APR 7 1954  
MAILED 31

58 APR 26 1954

ew

b7c [redacted]  
April 10 1954

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D.C.  
NATIONAL Council of Churches  
Gentlemen.

I am a member of [redacted]

and Sect. of our Missionary  
Group. I understand that  
part of our Missionary money  
goes to support The National  
Council of Churches.

We have been advised that  
some of the officials of the  
National Council of Churches  
have been under surveillance  
by your Dept. because of  
Commie leaning.

If this is true, we want  
stop supporting any organization  
that has anything to do with

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/13/83 BY SP4/MLK

EX-100

APR 22 1954

RECORDED - 60

100-50868-  
4-19  
APR 22 1954

Them. Can you advise us?

We will appreciate your early  
reply because we are due  
to send our Missionary  
Money to head-quarter very  
soon. Thank you.

Respectfully

b7c

[REDACTED]

Information requested for  
official Board of

b7c

[REDACTED]

April 28, 1954

RECORDED - 60

INDEXED - 60  
b1c

100-869-251

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of April 20, 1954, has been received, and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write.

While I would like to be of service, data in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would also like to point out that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations concerning the character or reputation of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

MAILED 7  
APR 28 1954  
COMM - FBI

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*W.S.*  
*mad*

NOTE: The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning the National Council of Churches, but an investigation confined to contacts with an informant of the New York Office did not develop any information indicating Communism or subversive activities on the part of the organization. The group has been, however, subjected to considerable attacks by other church organizations, and "files confidential" replies are given to inquiries concerning it.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP/EL/104

5 MAY 7 1954

TS

b7c  
[REDACTED]  
April 19, 1954

(y)

E. J. Hoover  
Agent, F. B. I.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing you in regard to the 'United Council of Churches'.

It has been told in my community that the United Council of Churches is associated with communism. Do you have any information which will verify this? Or disprove it? If so, I will appreciate any information that you have on this matter.

Respectfully yours,

[REDACTED]

b7c

RECORDED-21

*nm*  
*ack. 4-27-54*  
*YEM*

APR 21 1954

EXP. PROC.

100-50869-251  
4-29  
21 APR 21 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/hw/ik *gen*



April 27, 1954

RECORDED-29

INDEXED-29

100-50869-257

[Redacted]

b7c

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of April 19, 1954, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/28/82 BY SP-1/BJH/MLK

COMM - FBI  
APR 27 1954  
MAILED 27

NOTE: Correspondent desired information regarding the "United Council of Churches." Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

Mos  
JFK  
R  
JFK  
R

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Gearty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

58 MAY 5 1954

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

April 16, 1954

Handwritten notes: 8-1, 4-1, and other illegible scribbles.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing for some information from your office with regards to the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. This was formerly the General Council of Churches of Christ in America. We of the Disciples of Christ are members of the National Council and I had been encouraging my people of my local congregation to support this Council by financial contribution.

From time to time I have heard various accusations by certain fundamental groups that the National Council of Churches of Christ is Communistic in its intent and purposes and some have even gone so far as to name names of individuals who have been proven to be Communists.

I am a loyal American and a minister of the Gospel and I do not want to mislead my people in any way. Therefore, I would appreciate it a great deal if you would enlighten me as to the status of this Interdenominational organization.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/3/83 BY SP/SLW/SL

RECORDED - 2

30

100-50861-025

APR 27 1954

DEF. C. ORIGINAL REC. [Signature]

Handwritten note on left margin: [illegible]

b7c

Handwritten notes: mml, 4/23, 1722

April 23, 1954

[Redacted]

*James*  
4-1

RECORDED - 26

Dear [Redacted]

INDEXED - 26

Your letter of April 16, 1954, has been received, and I sincerely appreciate the interest which prompted you to write.

In view of the confidential nature of data in FBI files, it is not possible for me to furnish you with the specific information you desire. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

Please do not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have any data concerning the organization you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

*JPH*

MAILED 7  
APR 23 1954  
COMM - FBI

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*James*

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information regarding the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with the organization.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP/wh/...

GEM:blw:op

*James*  
*James*

b7C  
80

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

April 23, 1954

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

(4)

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The congregation of which I am pastor is affiliated with and gives financial support to the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. and the World Council of Churches.

I would appreciate knowing if the National Council (formerly called the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America) or the World Council of Churches have ever been on your list of subversive (Communist) organizations?

The question of the national loyalty of the National and World council has been raised here, and I would appreciate knowing if those two organizations have a clean bill of health from your office.

Sincerely yours  
[REDACTED]

b7C

A

ack. 4-29-54  
gene

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED, RECORDED - 26  
DATE 12/2/92 BY 984/ehk/ptk

100-50269-259

13 APR 30 1954

gene

April 29, 1954

RECORDED - 26

INDEXED - 26

100-50869-259

b7C EX

[REDACTED]

*nich*

Dear [REDACTED]

I sincerely appreciate the interest which prompted your letter of April 23, 1954.

While I would like to be of service, I must advise that data in FBI files are confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations regarding the character and integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the organizations you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

COMM - FBI  
APR 29 1954  
MAILED 19

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten signature]*

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_

MAY 7

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

b7c [REDACTED]

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holloman
- Miss Gandy

May 6, 1954

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Chief, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

b7c As Moderator of the General Assembly of the [REDACTED] I am writing you for information that will help clear up some confusion that exist in our denomination.

Three of the Boards of our Denomination are members of Divisions of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America. There is a certain group that oppose this membership in these Divisions on the charges of Communism of certain leaders of the Council. They have quoted you as saying there were Communist among the leaders of the Council.

In order that I may have the correct information on the matter and in turn will be able to advise our Denomination correctly as to the findings of your Bureau of Communism in the Council or members there of, I would appreciate a letter from you concerning the matter. I believe a letter from you will help to clear up some of the confusion concerning the Council and will help guide us in our future relations with the Council.

Thanking you in advance for this information, I remain,

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

EXP. PROC. MAY 11 1954

nmh  
ack. 5-12-54  
b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/klh/kr

RECORDED-85

EX-127

100-50764

260  
m  
①

13 MAY 7 1954

10  
May 19, 1954

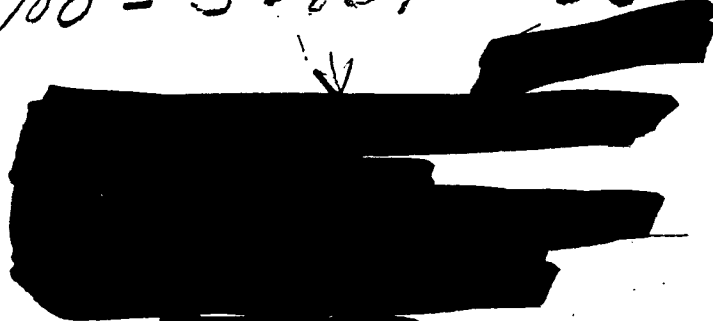
RECORDED-85

INDEXED-85

100 - 50869 - 260

EX-127

b7c



Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated May 6, 1954, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I must point out that information in the files of the FBI is strictly confidential and available for official use only. In addition, this Bureau is an investigative agency, and we do not, therefore, draw conclusions or make evaluations concerning the character or reputation of any organization or individual. In accordance with this policy, you will readily see that the statement which you say has been attributed to me can have no basis in fact.

Please do not assume from this either that we do or that we do not have the data you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning this organization, and it has been quite controversial. In 1950, an investigation, however, confined to contact with informants of New York Office, failed to develop any indications of Communist or subversive activities on the part of the organization.

MAILED 6  
MAY 24 1954  
COMM - FBI

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

68 MAY 24 1954

LL:jmd:gro

*Handwritten signatures and initials:* J. E. Hoover, V.P.N., M.A., M.L.L.

b7c

[Redacted]

May, 28, 1954

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:  
Urgent:

11

The well being of our church is threatened by remarks that the 'Federal or National Council of Churches of Christ in America are led or run by Communists.

I would like any information for or against this organization along this line.

Enclosed please find a self addressed stamped envelope for which an immediate reply would be greatly appreciated. Before June 9, 1954 if possible.

I am Vice President to the Women's Council of our local church. [Redacted]

NML  
Act 6-7-54  
BET

EX-1  
RECORDED 25/10

1-261

b7c

[Redacted]

Thank you  
Sincerely,  
[Redacted]

b7c

[Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/83 BY SP4 [Redacted]



-EX-125

June 7, 1954

RECORDED-35

100-50869-261

INDEXED-35

b7c

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated May 28, 1954, with enclosure, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would also like to point out that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and we do not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication.

I know that you will understand the necessity for these restrictions and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten initials]*

MAILED 8  
JUN 7 - 1954  
COMM - FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/80 BY SP4/...

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

195

NOTE: Bufile 100-50869 reflects certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with New York Office informants in 1950 reflected no indication of subversive activities on the part of any individuals affiliated with this organization. Correspondent enclosed a stamped, self addressed envelope which is being utilized in reply.

BET:meb *[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

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b7c

[REDACTED]

October 21, 1954

J. Edgar Hoover  
F.B.I.

W

Dear Sir; NATIONAL COUNCIL CHURCH OF CHRISTIAN AMERICA

The question I ask is not to inform me; I am only too well aware of the danger to our country that is posed by THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES. I am only too well aware of the threat to our Constitution under these evil conspirators. My people have made so much trouble for me because I oppose it, that I am obliged to try to convince them or have my life made miserable by their stubborn opposition. They think, because it is in the Methodist Church, that it is a Christian Organization.

IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES RFD?

*Sincerely*

[REDACTED]

b7c

*(Handwritten initials)*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP-6 [Handwritten]

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RECORDED-57

100-50869-262

OCT 29 1954

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*DC4*

EX-12A

*[Handwritten signatures]*

October 28, 1954

RECORDED-57

INDEXED-57

100-50869-262

b7c

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated October 21, 1954, with enclosure, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have data relating to the group you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [Signature]

**BAUMGARDNER** Note: Correspondent's enclosure was a three-cent stamp which is being utilized in reply.

Frequent inquiries are received by the Bureau concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated in the National Council Church of Christ in America. Some derogatory information concerning this organization appears in Bufiles; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. (100-50869)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont WAB
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
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- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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OCT 28 1954  
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[Handwritten signatures and initials: V. [unclear], W. [unclear], J. [unclear], etc.]

56 NOV 10 1954

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b7c  
November 3, 1954

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I would like to thank you for the information I have received concerning Communism, juvenile delinquency, and the crime problem in our country. I appreciate your help very much.

I would also like to know more about the liquor traffic in our country. Any help you might be able to give me concerning this problem will be very much appreciated.

I could use about 12 more copies of the <sup>JD</sup>"SYRACUSE LAW REVIEW" for distribution, 12 copies of the 9 page leaflet entitled "The Crime Problem."

I would also like to distribute about four dozen copies of the Booklet "100 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMMUNISM--in the U. S. A.

--and RELIGION  
--and EDUCATION  
--and LABOR  
--and GOVERNMENT  
and SPOTLIGHT ON SPIES

This booklet was written by the Committee on UN-American Activities, and was released May 14, 1951

I'd like to know all I can about how Communism is creeping into our Churches, and I'd like to know what I can do to stop it.

I have minister friends to whom I would like to distribute the booklet prepared by the Committee on Un-American Activities, and released on Feb. 17, 1952 entitled: "Review of THE METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION." I'd like to have anyway 24 copies.

I understand that United States Naval Intelligence in 1935 reported that the Federal Council of Churches was subversive and was one of the strongest of the organizations at that time giving aid to the Communist Party. Is that true, and how about the National Council of Churches in the U. S. A? Are these two organizations one and the same?

Any information on these subjects will be greatly appreciated

Thanks ahead of time...

Yours in Christ,

RECORDED & INDEXED  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

24 NOV 15 1954

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ewh/sr . 107

DRAME (R)

G. I. R. -9

November 12, 1954

RECORDED-12

100-50869-263

INDEXED-12

[Redacted]

4-2  
8-2  
jy

b7c

EX-107

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated November 9, 1954, has been received.

In accordance with your request, I am sending under separate cover twelve copies of the article concerning juvenile delinquency which appeared in "The Syracuse Law Review" and twelve copies of "The Crime Problem." I am also sending you some other material on the subject of Communism which I thought you might like to have.

We do not have the pamphlet "100 Things You Should Know About Communism in the U.S.A." available for distribution in the quantity you desire. The U.S. Government Printing Office has advised that this pamphlet is out of print; however, this publication and the following five booklets, "100 Things You Should Know About Communism in Religion," "100 Things You Should Know About Communism in Education," "100 Things You Should Know About Communism in Labor," "100 Things You Should Know About Communism in Government" and "Spotlight on Spies," have been compiled into one reprint. This reprint may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Corner of North Capitol and H Streets, Northwest, Washington, D. C., at a price of twenty-five cents per copy. It may be ordered by referring to House Document Number 136, 82nd Congress.

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- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
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- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

HEW:blb  
(5) blb

NOV 12 1954  
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(See note on next page)

E E I

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

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[REDACTED]  
November 12, 1954

With regard to your inquiry concerning the liquor traffic in the United States, I suggest that you communicate with the Director, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division, Internal Revenue Service, Twelfth Street and Constitution Avenue, Northwest, Washington 25, D. C., since this agency has jurisdiction over such matters.

May I take this opportunity to point out in response to your other requests that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. You may be interested in knowing that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I do hope you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance in this regard either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the subjects of your inquiries.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

CC - Mr. M. A. Jones  
UNDER SEPARATE COVER  
Communist Threat in U.S.  
How to Fight Communism  
Communist Virus  
Breaking the Communist Spell  
Where do we Stand Today with Communism in the U.S.?  
12 copies of The Crime Problem  
12 copies of The Syracuse Law Review

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, most of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

Correspondent not identifiable in Bufiles. It is an approved procedure in Crime Records Section that, when an individual requests material which we have available for distribution and no necessity exists for sending him a letter, such data is then packaged and mailed to him without cover letter and the incoming is destroyed and not placed in Bufiles.

Nov. 20, 1954

CO  
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
F. B. I. Headquarters,  
Wash. D. C.

(2)

Dear Sir,

I have recently read literature whose source is "The American Council of Christian Laymen, Condemning the National Council of Churches" as Red. I am trying to find out the truth and hope you can give me authentic information. Do you know where I can get authentic literature also? I am enclosing a pamphlet for you to read and hope you will read it and comment on its truth as false or as the case may be. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, a retired president of the Council of Churches is on the list of Reds named by the American Council of Christian Laymen. Any authentic information will be greatly appreciated. Has the National Council of Churches ever been investigated for being subversive?

RECORDED - 26  
EX 118

I thank you,

100-5411-1264

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NOV 26 1954

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/83 BY SP4/abw/ptj

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/2/83 BY SP4/abj/gh

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-264



# NOW IT IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Seeking to discredit charges which can not be denied, the Federal Council of Churches assumed an attitude of derision toward the brochure, "How Red Is the Federal Council of Churches?" An early release to regional and local Councils affiliated with FCCC had the following statement:

As for the list of persons who are described as "present and past officers, leaders and prominent members of the Federal Council," it is so gravely in error as to be an incredible performance! It includes persons who have not had any connection with the Federal Council for a dozen years — to say nothing of being "leaders."

The same statement, with only minor change, appeared over the signature of Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert in the FCC booklet "The Truth about the Federal Council of Churches."

Here are some of the persons listed:

**Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam**, only recently retired as president of FCC, and one of the most active men in the Council.

**Dr. Ralph W. Sockman**, who was chosen to preach the first sermon at the Constituting Convention of the National Council.

**Bishop William Scarlett**, chairman of the Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill.

**Dr. E. Stanley Jones**, the Federal Council's best known "evangelist."

**Dr. Henry Smith Leiper**, secretary of the World Council of Churches, which was sponsored by the Federal Council.

**Dr. John C. Bennett**, author of many books which purport to correlate the ideologies of Communism and Christianity. He was one of the secretaries of the World Council of Churches conclave at Amsterdam, and was author of the infamous declaration of that session which castigated Communism and capitalism on exactly the same basis.

**Rev. James Myers**, for many years Industrial Secretary of the Federal Council; although he now is retired, his prolific writings on organized labor and cooperatives still are published and sold by the Federal Council.

In addition to the foregoing, and many other presently active leaders of the Federal Council, "How Red . . ." listed seven men who then held important positions on the staff of the Federal Council, and who, under the National Council setup, have similar or more advanced positions.

These men are **Roswell P. Barnes, W. Russell Bowie, Samuel McCrea Cavert, F.**

**Ernest Johnson, Benson Y. Landis, Worth M. Tippy and Walter Van Kirk.** A new summarization of their affiliations with radical organizations, many of which are officially branded as subversive, appears later in this presentation.

Most significant of the promotions is that of **Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert** from general secretary of FCC to general secretary of NCC. This is the most important position in the entire setup. Dr. Cavert is described in the official publicity of FCC as its chief executive officer, and he will be exactly that in the "new" National Council. His selection is one of the important indications that NCC is nothing more than FCC under a new name, but with broader influence and greater power, and with the old FCC leadership firmly in control.

All FCC secretaries, directors and other staff members not elected by the Constituting Convention or nominated for later election by the General Board, are taken care of by the following regulation:

"In cases where uniting agencies are making funds and staff available for the work of the Central Departments . . . the program units carrying forward the work of these uniting agencies are permitted to list such personnel in their staff roster, with the understanding that the primary relationship of such staff personnel is to the Central Departments involved."

Insofar as the new positions for FCC staff members were disclosed at the time of the Constituting Convention, they are indicated, in bold-faced type, in the following presentation of affiliations of staff members of the Federal Council of Churches:

**Earl F. Adams** — Chairman, Field Department. Administrative Secy.  
**American Youth Congress** — Listed under Peace Committee, Buffalo Peace Council. (Appendix IX, p. 539)  
**Roswell P. Barnes** — Associate General Secretary, Executive Sec'y, Division of Christian Life and work.  
**Associated Film Audiences** — Executive Board (Appendix IX, pp. 728, 1101)  
**Committee on Militarism in Education** — Secretary  
**Committee for Norman Thomas, 1929**  
**Norman Thomas Campaign Committee, Sec'y**  
**Emergency Peace Campaign** — Nat'l. Sponsor  
**Fellowship of Reconciliation** — Executive Committee (letterhead)  
**Fellowship of Socialist Christians** — Secretary, 1934  
**National Religion and Labor Foundation** — Signed letter to F. D. R. 11-29-35

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.

(Revised edition of the brochure, "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches?" has the above paragraph on the first page, and the word "Federal" is overprinted as shown in the heading at the left.)

**North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy** (letterhead)  
**United China Relief** — Director  
**War Resisters League**  
**World Youth Congress** — Sponsor (Daily Worker, March 28, 1938, p. 3)  
**W. Russell Bowie** — Vice Chairman, Commission on Worship. Vice Chairman, Department of Worship and Art.  
**American Committee for Non-Participation in Japanese Aggression** — Sponsor  
**American Committee to Save Refugees** — Sponsor of Dinner (Appendix IX, p. 362)  
**American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born** — Sponsor 5th National Conference (Appendix IX, p. 353)  
**Church Emergency Committee for Relief of Textile Strikers** — Member  
**Church League for Industrial Democracy** — Official Folder  
**Attacked American Legion Lobby in Washington** (Chicago Tribune, March 19, 1934)  
**Citizens Emergency Conference for Interracial Unity** — Sponsor  
**Civil Rights Congress** — Sponsor (Un-American Activities Committee)  
**Committee on Militarism in Education** — National Council  
**Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo** (Appendix IX, p. 669)  
**Emergency Committee for Strikers Relief Fellowship of Reconciliation**  
**Friends of Italian Democracy** — Member  
**Greater New York Emergency Conference on Inalienable Rights** (Appendix IX, p. 772)  
**Harry Bridges Defense Committee**. (Calif. 4th Report, p. 248)  
**National Citizens Political Action Committee** — Member (Appendix IX, p. 364)  
**National Citizens Committee on Relations with Latin America, 1927**  
**National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions** — Sponsor  
**National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights** — Executive Committee and Board of Sponsors (Calif. 4th Report p. 327)  
**National Federation for Constitutional Liberties** (Appendix IX, p. 1222)  
**Non-Intervention Citizens Committee**  
**North American Committee to Aid Spanish**

100-5070-17  
 CHAS. S. BEE

- Democracy — Sponsor  
 Open Letter on Harry Bridges — Signer (Daily Worker, July 19, 1942, p. 4)  
 Open Letter to President Roosevelt Protesting Bridges Deportation — Signer  
 Protestant — signed Petition (August-September issue, 1947, p. 33)  
 Schappes Defense Committee (Appendix IX, p. 1555)  
 War Resisters League — Member  
 Washington Committee to Lift Spanish Embargo — Sponsor  
 World Tomorrow Poll — Signer  
 Beverly M. Boyd — Executive Secretary, Department of Christian Social Relations, Executive Director, Dept. of Social Welfare.  
 Russian War Relief, Inc. — Chairman, Richmond Committee (Soviet Russia Today, June 1942, p. 23)  
 Nannie H. Burroughs — Vice Chairman, Committee on Church and Cooperatives  
 National Negro Congress — Endorser (Appendix IX, p. 1293)
- Samuel McCrea Cavert** — General Secretary, General Secretary, NCC.  
 Fellowship of Reconciliation (letterhead); Admitted membership in pamphlet, "The Truth About the Federal Council of Churches."  
 North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy — Sponsor. Admitted in above pamphlet.  
 Protestant — Signer of Appeal; Sponsor of Dinner, February 25, 1941  
 War Resisters League — Endorsed Pamphlet, "Military Training in the Schools and Colleges of the U. S.," by Winthrop D. Lane  
 Henry Sloane Coffin — Chairman, Department of Research and Education. Dr. Coffin will be 74 years old in 1951; he retired as President of Union Theological Seminary in 1945; presumably he did not wish a position in the NCC setup.)  
 "On July 6, 1919, Five clergymen issued a protest against the repression exercised against the Reds, against arrests and deportations, and against the application of the Espionage Act. The clergymen signing this document were . . . Henry Sloane Coffin . . ." (Lusk Report, p. 1138)  
 American Civil Liberties Union — Worked with, protesting against the use of police action to suppress Communism (Vol. 1, p. 523, of House Reports)  
 American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born — Signer (Daily Worker, Oct. 28, 1940); Sponsor (Appendix IX, pp. 349, 354)  
 American Committee to Save Refugees — Sponsor (folder)  
 American Committee for Yugoslav Relief — Sponsor  
 Mary Ware Bennett Defense Committee — Member (Vol. 1, p. 530, House Reports); Vice Chairman  
 Committee for Thomas, 1929  
 Endorser, Lane Pamphlet  
 Medical Aid to Russia — Sponsor (Soviet Russia Today, Sept. 1941)  
 National Council of American-Soviet Friendship — Sponsor of Congress; National Sponsor, 1943-44 (Calif. 4th Report, p. 322)  
 Non-Intervention Citizens Committee, 1927 — Member (letterhead)  
 Protestant — Member New York Committee (letterhead, January 22, 1941); Sponsor of Call for Dinner-Forum (Appendix IX, p. 1521)  
 Protestant Digest Associates — Sponsor of Call for Dinner-Forum  
 Russian War Relief — Member, Board of Directors (New Masses, January 13, 1942, p. 23); Vice Chairman (New York Times, October 10, 1941)  
 Signed Petition for Sacco and Vanzetti, August 22, 1927  
 Signed Fellowship of Reconciliation Petition for Russian Recognition, 1932  
 Sent Greetings to Communist Student Congress Against War, December 27, 1932  
 Soviet Russia Today — Issued Statement in support of USSR (Soviet Russia Today, November, 1941, p. 14), Contributor (Soviet Russia Today, June 1942, p. 7)  
 United States Soviet Friendship Congress — Sponsor of U. S. — Soviet Friendship Rallyes (Daily Worker, Sept. 29, 1943, p. 5; Appendix IX, p. 481)  
 Edwin T. Dahlberg — Chairman, Department of Evangelism  
 Open Letter to Pres. Roosevelt Protesting Bridges Deportation — Signer  
 Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder (Appendix IX, p. 621)  
 Hugh D. Darsie — Chairman, Commission on Marriage and the Home  
 American Relief for Greek Democracy — Sponsor (letterhead, Nov. 19, 1946)  
 Truman Douglas — Vice Chairman, Protestant Radio Commission  
 Schappes Defense Committee (Appendix IX, p. 1555)  
 Richard Fasley — Executive Secretary, Dept. of International Justice and Goodwill, Director, Department of International Justice and Goodwill  
 National Committee on Atomic Information — Executive Committee  
 Save Czechoslovakia Committee — Member (Handbill)  
 World Youth Congress — Delegate to Second World Youth Congress  
 George E. Haynes — Secretary Emeritus, Dept. of Race Relations  
 Citizens Emergency Conference for Interracial Unity — Sponsor (Booklet)  
 Shelby Harrison — Chairman, Department of Christian Social Relations  
 Included in a list as being affiliated with from 1 to 10 Communist-front organizations (Committee on Un-American Activities Report on the Scientific and Cultural Conference for World Peace-Waldorf Conference-March 25, 1949, p. 19)  
 World Peace Conference — Sponsor (p. 28 above report)  
 Social Work Today Cooperators, 1941 (Appendix IX, p. 1791)  
 F. Ernest Johnson — Executive Secretary, Department of Research and Education, Executive Director, Department of Research and Survey.  
 Consumers National Federation — Sponsor (Official Leaflet); Sponsor, Come and Hear the Case of "The People vs. H. C. L." (Appendix IX, p. 659)  
 Institute for Propaganda Analysis — Adviser (letterhead, June 1938)  
 League for Industrial Democracy  
 World Peaceways — Sponsor (letterhead)  
 E. Felix Kloman — Vice Chairman, Department of Christian Social Relations  
 Consumers National Federation — Sponsor (Official leaflet); Sponsor, Come and Hear the Case of "The People vs. H.C.L." (Appendix IX, p. 659)  
 Benson Y. Landis — Associate Executive Secy., Dept. of Research and Education; Secy. Committee on Town and Country Acting Secy., Washington Office, Secretary of Department of Town and Country, and Associate Executive Director, Dept. of Research and Survey.  
 Consumers Nat'l Federation — Sponsor  
 Equality — Contributor Dec. 1939, p. 22
- Oscar Maddaus — Chairman, Committee on the Church and Cooperatives  
 American Civil Liberties Union — National Committee (Lusk Report, pp. 1889, 1102); Nat'l Committee, Mar. 1920 (which made vicious attack on Attorney General Palmer for the Red Raids) (Vol. 1, p. 534 of House Reports)  
 I. George Nace — Vice Chairman and Secretary, Joint Commission on Planning and Adjustment of Local Inter-Church Relations, Executive Secy., Division of Home Missions, Nat'l Committee to Abolish Poll Tax — Sponsor (letterhead, March, 1946)  
 Malcolm E. Peabody — Chairman, Committee for Religious Tolerance  
 Committee of Welcome for the Very Reverend Hewlett Johnson — Member  
 National Council of American-Soviet Friendship — Nat'l Sponsor, 1943-44 (Calif. 4th Report, p. 323); Sponsor (letterhead, Jan. 7, 1948; May 9, 1949); National Sponsor (letterhead, October 26, 1949); Sponsor of Congress (Soviet Russia Today, December 1942, p. 42; Appendix IX, p. 1199)  
 United States Soviet Friendship Congress — Sponsor of U. S.-Soviet Friendship Rallyes (Daily Worker, September 29, 1943, p. 5; Appendix IX, p. 481)  
 William Scarlett — Chairman, Dept. of International Justice and Goodwill; Acting Chairman of Committee on Policy, Dept. of International Justice and Goodwill  
 American Civil Liberties Union — Committee, 1937 (Vol. 1, p. 528, House Reports); Committee, June 7, 1938 (Vol. 4, p. 2978; House Reports)  
 American Civil Liberties Union of St. Louis (Subsidiary of ACLU) — Director (Vol. 1, p. 530, House Reports)  
 American Committee for Non-participation in Japanese Aggression — Sponsor  
 Church Emergency Relief Committee  
 Church League for Industrial Democracy  
 Committee on Militarism in Education (letterhead)  
 National Religion and Labor Foundation  
 Protestant — Sponsor of Call for Dinner-Forum (Appendix IX, p. 1521)  
 Sherwood Eddy Commission to Russia — Member (1926)  
 Worth M. Tippy — Secretary Emeritus, Department of Christian Social Relations  
 American League for Peace and Democracy — Endorser of Congress  
 Associated Film Audiences — Honorary Chairman (Appendix IX, p. 728)  
 Church Emergency Relief Committee  
 Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo — Representative Individual (Official Booklet of Coordinating Committee; Appendix IX, p. 669)  
 Fellowship of Faiths — Speaker, 1933  
 Film Audiences for Democracy — Hon. Pres. Exec Committee (Appendix IX)  
 Methodist Federation for Social Service — Secy. 1906; Committee, 1933  
 Walter Van Kirk — Executive Secy., Dept. of International Justice and Goodwill, Executive Director, Department of International Justice and Goodwill.  
 American Youth Congress  
 Emergency Peace Mobilization  
 Committee on Militarism in Education  
 League for Industrial Democracy Recommended his "peace" writings, 1935-36  
 War Resisters League
- American Council of Christian Laymen  
 122 West Washington Avenue  
 Madison 1, Wisconsin

I.R.-8

December 2, 1954

RECORDED - 26

INDEXED - 26

877-X3  
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100-50869-264

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

L.M. 41  
8-1

Your letter postmarked November 23, 1954, with enclosure, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, information contained in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. You may be interested in knowing that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I do hope that you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the subject of your inquiry.

I am not aware of any source from which you can obtain literature of the type you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/19/82 BY SP2/ghk/ghk

DEC 2 1954  
MAILED 19

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
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- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Bufiles reflect derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data is from rival church groups and investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no information was developed indicating Communist or subversive activities on the part of any individual affiliated with this group. (100-50869)

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[Handwritten initials]

66 DEC 2 1954

(See Note Next Page)

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b7c



December 2, 1954

NOTE: (continued)

The American Council of Christian Laymen is responsible for the brochure "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches" which quoted from the Director's testimony before the HCUA in 1947 stating that the Director had fears "so long as Communists are able to send ministers of the Council to promote their evil work." This quotation was used out of context to infer that certain individuals affiliated with Federal Council of Churches was subversive, and much controversy among Christian Laymen has resulted from this publication. Vern T. Kaud, President of the American Council of Christian Laymen, has written letters to the Director relative to his use of the aforementioned quotation. (94-1-14921; 94-37868-37 and 62-100432)

Correspondent enclosed leaflet entitled "Now It Is The Federal Council of Churches" which is concerned with the article "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches."

20115

Dec. 2, 1954

Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

(4)

I am enclosing some printed material that was sent to me by an acquaintance that knows that I do a lot of work in the World Council of Churches. She is getting so excited over the "Red" question that she can see them 'standing behind every fence post'.

After reading some of this material, it would seem to me that all of this is being printed by people who are themselves incited by communists. The communists know that there has been an almost world-wide upserging toward God, so what better place would there be for them to work? I wonder if they haven't published this stuff themselves so that Christianity will be weakened.

I know that you can't tell me much about how this is distributed and by whom, but I would like some assurance that there is no foundation for these accusations.

I think perhaps some of our ministers and religious leaders have been striving so desperately for peace that they have not always been wise in the choice of their affiliation with peace organizations. I can't believe it would be through any sense of disloyalty--that is, in the case of our older and best known religious leaders.

Would you please be so kind as to give me some information as to the origin of this material?

Yours truly,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address]

RECORDED - 8

100-57807-265

8 DEC 10 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/12/84 BY SP4/abw/1

EX-111  
DEC 6 1954

ENCL

12-9-54

CRIMINAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [signature]

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-265

American Council of Christian Laymen has dared to

# CHALLENGE

The Federal Council of Churches and all the hierarchies in control of the Council's affiliated Churches. Having merged with a dozen other inter-denominational agencies, the Council of the Churches of Christ in U. S. A.

**How Red Is the Federal Council of Churches** was the first challenge; its six pages name Communist-Front affiliations of Federal Council leaders and pro-Communist statements of these leaders and the Council. Revised edition, 2 copies, 25 cents; 10 copies, \$1.00; \$7.50 per 100; \$60 per 1,000.

**The Federal Council of Churches Takes Its Stand With Enemies of America** is a 16 page pamphlet, supplement to "How Red . . . ?" Cites additional evidence of pro-Communist position of the Federal Council from official publications of that Council. Two copies, 25 cents; 10 copies, \$1.00; \$7.50 per 100; \$60 per 1,000.

**Let Us Protestants Awake!** 64-page book by (the late) Reuben H. Markham, American Board missionary who turned to journalism and became internationally recognized expert on Balkan affairs. He wrote this book in 1948, after being expelled from Rumania, as a contribution to Christian Americanism — a plea to Protestants to strive mightily to preserve American Freedom. 50 cents per copy; 5 copies, \$2.00; \$35.00 per 100; \$300.00 per 1,000.

50869-265

**American Council of Christian Laymen**  
Madison 1, Wisconsin

I want to know more about Communistic trends of the Churches, and help others to know about them. Please apply my remittance as follows:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Copies of **How Red Is the Federal Council?** \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copies of **FCC Takes Its Stand** . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copies of **Let Us Protestants Awake!** . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to promotional work of ACCL . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
- Membership fees: Active (\$5 to \$25) \_\_\_\_\_
- Contributor (\$30 to \$100) \_\_\_\_\_
- Donor (\$200 to \$500) \_\_\_\_\_
- Benefactor (\$1,000 and above) \_\_\_\_\_
- Total Remittance \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
(Clergymen may enroll as associate members of any group)

All Shipping Charges Prepaid on All Publications

# NOW IT IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Seeking to discredit charges which can not be denied, the Federal Council of Churches assumed an attitude of derision toward the brochure, "How Red Is the Federal Council of Churches?" An early release to regional and local Councils affiliated with FCCC had the following statement:

As for the list of persons who are described as "present and past officers, leaders and prominent members of the Federal Council," it is so gravely in error as to be an incredible performance! It includes persons who have not had any connection with the Federal Council for a dozen years — to say nothing of being "leaders."

The same statement, with only minor change, appeared over the signature of Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert in the FCC booklet "The Truth about the Federal Council of Churches."

Here are some of the persons listed:

**Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam**, only recently retired as president of FCC, and one of the most active men in the Council.

**Dr. Ralph W. Sockman**, who was chosen to preach the first sermon at the Constituting Convention of the National Council.

**Bishop William Scarlett**, chairman of the Council's Department of International Justice and Goodwill.

**Dr. E. Stanley Jones**, the Federal Council's best known "evangelist."

**Dr. Henry Smith Leiper**, secretary of the World Council of Churches, which was sponsored by the Federal Council.

**Dr. John C. Bennett**, author of many books which purport to correlate the ideologies of Communism and Christianity. He was one of the secretaries of the World Council of Churches conclave at Amsterdam, and was author of the infamous declaration of that session which castigated Communism and capitalism on exactly the same basis.

**Rev. James Myers**, for many years Industrial Secretary of the Federal Council; although he now is retired, his prolific writings on organized labor and cooperatives still are published and sold by the Federal Council.

In addition to the foregoing, and many other presently active leaders of the Federal Council, "How Red . . . ?" listed seven men who then held important positions on the staff of the Federal Council, and who, under the National Council set-up, have similar or more advanced positions.

These men are **Roswell P. Barnes**, **W. Russell Bowie**, **Samuel McCrea Cavert**, **F.**

**Ernest Johnson**, **Benson Y. Landis**, **Worth M. Tippy** and **Walter Van Kirk**. A new summarization of their affiliations with radical organizations, many of which are officially branded as subversive, appears later in this presentation.

Most significant of the promotions is that of **Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert** from general secretary of FCC to general secretary of NCC. This is the most important position in the entire setup. Dr. Cavert is described in the official publicity of FCC as its chief executive officer, and he will be exactly that in the "new" National Council. His selection is one of the important indications that NCC is nothing more than FCC under a new name, but with broader influence and greater power, and with the old FCC leadership firmly in control.

All FCC secretaries, directors and other staff members not elected by the Constituting Convention or nominated for later election by the General Board, are taken care of by the following regulation:

"In cases where uniting agencies are making funds and staff available for the work of the Central Departments . . . the program units carrying forward the work of these uniting agencies are permitted to list such personnel in their staff roster, with the understanding that the primary relationship of such staff personnel is to the Central Departments involved."

Insofar as the new positions for FCC staff members were disclosed at the time of the Constituting Convention, they are indicated, in bold-faced type, in the following presentation of affiliations of staff members of the Federal Council of Churches:

**Earl F. Adams** — Chairman, Field Department. Administrative Secy.

**American Youth Congress** — Listed under Peace Committee, Buffalo Peace Council. (Appendix IX, p. 539)

**Roswell P. Barnes** — Associate General Secretary. Executive Sec'y. Division of Christian Life and work.

**Associated Film Audiences** — Executive Board (Appendix IX, pp. 728, 1101)

**Committee on Militarism in Education** — Secretary

**Committee for Norman Thomas, 1929**

**Norman Thomas Campaign Committee, Sec'y**

**Emergency Peace Campaign** — Nat'l. Sponsor

**Fellowship of Reconciliation** — Executive Committee (letterhead)

**Fellowship of Socialist Christians** — Secretary, 1934

**National Religion and Labor Foundation** — Signed letter to F. D. R. 11-29-35

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.

(Revised edition of the brochure, "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches?" has the above paragraph on the first page, and the word "Federal" is overprinted as shown in the heading at the left.)

**North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy** (letterhead)  
**United China Relief** — Director  
**War Resisters League**  
**World Youth Congress** — Sponsor (Daily Worker, March 28, 1938, p. 3)

**W. Russell Bowie** — Vice Chairman, Commission on Worship. Vice Chairman, Department of Worship and Art.

**American Committee for Non-Participation in Japanese Aggression** — Sponsor

**American Committee to Save Refugees** — Sponsor of Dinner (Appendix IX, p. 362)

**American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born** — Sponsor 5th National Conference (Appendix IX, p. 353)

**Church Emergency Committee for Relief of Textile Strikers** — Member

**Church League for Industrial Democracy** — Official Folder

**Attacked American Legion Lobby in Washington** (Chicago Tribune, March 19, 1934)

**Citizens Emergency Conference for Interracial Unity** — Sponsor

**Civil Rights Congress** — Sponsor (Un-American Activities Committee)

**Committee on Militarism in Education** — National Council

**Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo** (Appendix IX, p. 669)

**Emergency Committee for Strikers Relief**

**Fellowship of Reconciliation**

**Friends of Italian Democracy** — Member

**Greater New York Emergency Conference on Inalienable Rights**. (Appendix IX, p. 772)

**Harry Bridges Defense Committee**. (Calif. 4th Report, p. 248)

**National Citizens Political Action Committee** — Member (Appendix IX, p. 264)

**National Citizens Committee on Relations with Latin America, 1927**

**National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions** — Sponsor

**National Emergency Conference for Democratic Rights** — Executive Committee and Board of Sponsors (Calif. 4th Report p. 327)

**National Federation for Constitutional Liberties** (Appendix IX, p. 1222)

**Non-Intervention Citizens Committee**

**North American Committee to Aid Spanish**

100-50869-265 2nc



# HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.



**READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND  
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS**

100-50869-265

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**"Whose Unclean Fingers Have Been  
Tampering With The Holy Bible,  
God's Pure, Infallible, Verbally  
Inspired Word?"**

**A discussion of the *FACTS* concerning the new Revised Standard Version of the Bible, edited and copyrighted by the National (Federal) Council of Churches.**

(Copies of this pamphlet may be secured by writing the Book Table, Wealthy Street Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan. No charge for as many as you can prayerfully use. We would appreciate any contribution to pay for the printing for as wide a distribution as possible.)

13th Printing  
(Total copies printed — 96,350)

**by David Otis Fuller, D.D., Pastor**

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100-50869-265

100-50069-265

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# **A WARNING!**

## **AGAINST THE NEW**

### **"INTERPRETER'S BIBLE"**

***The sinister companion to the RSV Bible, BOTH sponsored and backed by the National (Federal) Council of Churches, an organization whose leaders are proved to be Socialistic, Pro-Communistic and Unitarian.***

(Copies of this pamphlet may be secured by writing the Book Table, Wealthy Street Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan. No charge for as many as you can prayerfully use. We would appreciate any contribution to pay for the printing for as wide a distribution as possible.)

**by David Otis Fuller, D.D., Pastor**

---

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100-50869-265

# ENEMIES OF THE BIBLE

**Five Are Considered Herein.  
Which is the worst?**

**Take your choice!**

1. "Red" Communism (It Began in Heaven!)
2. "Black" Romanism (Perfectly Described in Rev. 17 and 18!)
3. "Pink" Modernism (As old as the Devil)
4. "Yellow" Fundamentalism ("A man is known by the Company he keeps")
5. You???? — 1 Samuel 15:22

(Copies of this pamphlet may be secured by writing the Book Table, Wealthy Street Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan. No charge for as many as you can prayerfully use. We would appreciate any contribution to pay for the printing for as wide a distribution as possible.)

**By David Otis Fuller, D.D. Pastor**

NO LOC

(1)

100-50869-265 Enc. 6

20114

Dec 9, 1954

RECORDED - 8

INDEXED - 8 100-50869-265

EX-130 b7c

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated December 2, 1954, with enclosures, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, it will not be possible for me to comply with your requests due to the confidential nature of information in FBI files. I do hope that you will understand my position in this matter and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Correspondent enclosed literature concerning the National Council of Churches which is known as the Federal Council of Churches. One of the enclosures is a pamphlet entitled "How Red Is The Federal Council of Churches?" The Bureau has received numerous inquiries concerning this pamphlet as well as the organization. An investigation to contacts with informants was conducted by the New York Office in 1950; however, no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of the organization. (100-50869)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/22/82 BY SP/LLK/ML

- Belmont
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Sizoo
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

HEW:nma  
(3)

MAILED 8  
DEC 9 - 1954  
COMM - FBI

*[Handwritten signatures]*

*[Handwritten initials: JMO/TB, NEW]*

64 DEC 16 1954

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

DATE: Dec. 15, 1954

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

For record purposes, Miss Hutha G. Smith, TEmple 6-6128, Alexandria, Virginia, called to invite the Director to speak at a Lenten Service meeting sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches at the Washington Street Methodist Church in Alexandria on April 5, 6, or 7, 1955. The meetings will run from 11:50 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

I expressed the Director's regrets. Miss Smith stated she would keep after the Director until she got him.

cc: Mr. Jones  
LBN:arm  
(3)

100-50869-2651  
 RECORDED - 171-20-50869-266  
 74-31472-13

MAY 7 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 2/2/83 BY SPAD/...

INDEXED TO DEC 17 1954

100-50869-266  
**CHANGED TO**  
94-1-31672-13

<sup>48</sup>  
JAN 25 1955

*Sj.*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 *elb/lye*

b7C



Dec 27-1954

Kind Bureau:-

Will you kindly give me information on the Council of Churches: I womens organization. I have heard rumors that the Communists are working through these organization

Please tell me as I dont want anything to do with a Communist organization.

I am a real American a United Presbyterian and a Democrat.

I had have been chosen President of the local Council of Church women, and with a good report

from you I will go ahead God willing. But please inform me if there is a flaw in this organization

Thanking you  
100-50257-261  
DEC 28 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/13/83 BY SP-1/MLP

RECORDED-11



mme  
ack 12-2-54  
HRA

501 Mrs

b7C



December 31, 1954

b7c 100-50869-267

RECORDED

RECORDED-REAR

INDEXED-11

[REDACTED]

Your letter of December 27, 1954, has been received.

In response to your request, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. You may be interested in knowing that this Bureau is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I do hope that you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America;

HEW:n1  
(3) yH

(See next page.)

Notes  
✓ per [unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]

EX-124

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/2/88 BY SP/klh/wh

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Harbo
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Nease
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

7348  
JAN 5 1955

MAILED 5  
DEC 31 1954  
COMM-FBI

b7C

[REDACTED]

December 31, 1954

however, much of this data was received from rival church groups. Investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.  
(100-50869)

b7c



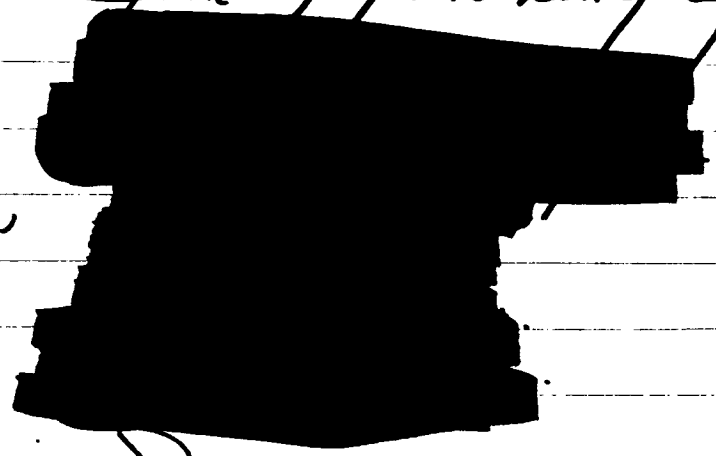
Dec. 31, 1954

J. Edgar Hoover,  
Kind Sir:

(47)

You had in Federal  
Council of Churches - and can  
You give me other information  
Concerning Communism etc?

Sincerely Thanking You -



b7c

P.S. Peace, Arthur Louis

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY 9246/MLK/EX-110  
RECORDED-74

100-50569-268

13 JAN 10 1955

4/10/55

RECORDED-74  
INDEXED-74

100-50869-268

January 7, 1955

EX-110

[REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of December 31, 1954, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and does not draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual. I know that you will understand the reason for this rule and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the organization you mentioned.

In accordance with your request, I am enclosing some information concerning the menace of Communism.

Sincerely yours,

COMM - FBI  
JAN - 7 1955  
MAILED 19

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Enclosures (4)
- How to Fight Communism
- Communist Threat in U. S.
- Communist Virus
- Where Do We Stand Today With Communism in the United States?

NOTE: Bufiles contain certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in

(Continued next page.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/22/83 BY SP/...

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Harbo
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Sizoo
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

JAN 1 1955

ELT:sm:rg  
(3) 24 88

MAT  
V. K. B.  
W. W.

b7c

[REDACTED]

January 7, 1955

**NOTE (Cont)**

1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization.

SAC, New York

1/10/55

Director, FBI

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
OF CHRIST IN AMERICA  
(FBI, Statistical Section)

*wfp*

In the past you have obtained the following information from this organization:

1. Number of Sunday School students.
2. Number of Sunday School officers and teachers.
3. Number of schools (church).

Please bring this up-to-date and in addition inquire for any estimate figures they use on total annual gifts and contributions to religious bodies. The Department of Commerce has discontinued estimates on this specific item.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/83 BY SP4/ehk/jk

RECORDED-42

100-50869-268

~~94-31672-17~~

EX-103

JAN 11 1955

COMM - FBI  
JAN 10 1955  
MAILED 28

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAY 7 1959

JAN 1 1955

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the United States of America  
Division of Christian Education  
**COMMISSION ON GENERAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

79 East Adams Street (Adams Street at Michigan Avenue) Chicago 3, Illinois

THE RT. REV. HENRY KNOX SHERRILL  
*President*  
REV. SAMUEL MC CREA CAVERT  
*General Secretary*  
REV. ROY O. ROSS  
*Associate General Secretary*  
CHARLES E. WILSON  
*Treasurer*

January 17, 1955

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*Chairman*

REV. LUTHER WESLEY SMITH  
*Chairman, Executive Board*

*Officers of the Commission*

REV. HARRY THOMAS STOCK  
*Chairman*

REV. RAY J. HARMELINK  
*Chairman, Executive Committee*

*Staff of the Commission*

REV. GERALD E. KNOFF  
*General Director*

MRS. ALICE L. GODDARD  
*Executive Director Children's Work*

MARY ELIZABETH VENABLE  
*Associate Executive Director Children's Work*

REV. A. WILSON CHEEK  
*Executive Director Youth Work*

REV. DENNIS B. SAVAGE  
*Associate Executive Director Youth Work*

REV. RICHARD E. LENTZ  
*Executive Director Adult Work*

W. RANDOLPH THORNTON  
*Executive Director Leadership Education and Church School Administration*

REV. PAUL H. KING  
*Associate Executive Director Leadership Education and Church School Administration*

MILDRED A. MAONUSON  
*Executive Director Curriculum Development*

REV. ERWIN L. SHAYER  
*Executive Director Weekday Religious Education*

PEARL ROSSER  
*Executive Director Audio-Visual and Radio Education*

REV. ELMER G. MILLION  
*Associate Executive Director Audio-Visual and Radio Education*

REV. JOHN C. TREVER  
*Executive Director Department of English Bible*

REV. VIBOIL E. FOSTER  
*Editor International Journal of Religious Education*

REV. PERCY R. HAYWARD  
*Editor Emeritus International Journal of Religious Education*

LILLIAN WILLIAMS  
*Managing Editor International Journal of Religious Education*

HELEN F. SPAULDING  
*Associate Executive Director Educational Program*

REV. WILLIAM H. VASTINE  
*Executive Director Inter-Group Education*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As the Committee on the Graded Series of the National Council of Churches met in March, 1954 to plan curriculum materials which would be used in the church schools of many denominations in 1958 and following, the question of the teaching of temperance in church schools was considered, and dissatisfaction was expressed over present ways of doing this.

As the children's workers discussed this, they agreed that new ways should be found for presenting this matter to children. It was recognized that conflicts in the home might be more acute on this subject than on many other subjects and that the church faces the problem of handling this in such a way as to avoid conflict in the mind of the child between the teachings of the church school and the practices of the parents. The need is recognized to avoid conflict too great for the child to handle. There is a desire to approach teachings about temperance in a positive way which will help the child as he grows to recognize the implications from the Christian viewpoint.

We believe that, if your time permits, you could help us in developing an intelligent approach to this problem. We are concerned not only with alcohol education as such, but with it in relation to the total developmental approach. We would be grateful for any information and suggestions which you might give in regard to such questions as the following:

How can this subject be approached so as to involve the child in the least possible conflict?

How may we safeguard the children from conflicts where this problem is particularly acute in the home?

How can the child be helped in the church school to build values and practices that will enable him to live with satisfaction to himself and others; that will protect his physical and mental health?

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ew/115

100-50869-267

JAN 27 1955

JAN 19 1955

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
1/17/55

-2-

We shall greatly appreciate the sharing of your insights for the curriculum work of the church school. We wish also to assure you of the confidential nature of this letter and that your reply likewise will be treated confidentially should you so desire.

Thank you heartily for your cooperation in this important matter.

Cordially yours,

*Alice L. Goddard*

Mrs. Alice L. Goddard  
Executive Director  
Department of Children's Work

ALG:lml

JAN 19 1955



January 24, 1955

EX-115  
RECORDED-41  
INDEXED-41

100-38941-209  
Mrs. Alice L. Goddard  
Executive Director  
Department of Children's Work  
National Council of the Churches of  
Christ in the United States of America  
79 East Adams Street  
Chicago 9, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Goddard:

Your letter dated January 17, 1955, with enclosure, has been received.

While I appreciate the interest which prompted your request, I am unable to comment specifically on the curriculum work of the church school, inasmuch as that would more properly be within the authority of educational and clerical officials. Enclosed, however, is some material which explains my views on the value of religious training. I hope it will be of assistance to you.

The envelope which you so thoughtfully provided is returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/19/89 BY SPK/duj

Enclosures (4)  
Crime Challenges the Churches, The Sunday School - Key to Tomorrow  
Crime and the Sunday School, Envelope enclosed by correspondent  
NOTE: The stamped self-addressed envelope furnished by correspondent was too small for our enclosures. The Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into the  
(NOTE: CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

and

*Mrs. Alice L. Goddard*

*January 24, 1955*

*National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., has been the center of considerable controversy, much of it the result of attacks by rival church clubs. An investigation confined to contacts with New York Office informants in 1950 reflected ~~that~~ no data indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of persons affiliated with this group. (100-50869) In view of its controversial nature, however, it is not felt that the Director should prepare any original statement for them.*

January 20, 1955

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Sometime ago you published a pamphlet entitled, "100 Subversive Organizations". If this pamphlet is free, please send me a copy of it, and if there is a charge, please advise and I will send you the money to cover.

If this booklet is not still in print I will appreciate anything that you have to offer that will help to know what the subversive organizations are in this Country.

Please send any information you have available on the National Council of Churches.

If there is any charge for any of this information please advise and I will remit promptly, or you may send C.O.D. if you prefer.

Thank you.

Yours very truly,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [signature]



*made  
1-27-55  
T&P*

RECORDED-12

INDEXED-12

EX-123

JAN 28 1955

100-50869-270

ORIGIN FILED

January 27, 1955

RECORDED-12  
b7c

100-50869-270

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

EX-125

Your letter dated January 20, 1955, has been received.

In connection with your first inquiry, the FBI has never published a booklet of the type you mentioned. It is felt, however, that you may have reference to a pamphlet entitled "100 Things You Should Know About Communism in the U. S. A." which was prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. I am enclosing a copy of this pamphlet, and there is no charge for it.

Concerning your second inquiry, I am unable to comment regarding it inasmuch as the FBI is a fact-finding agency and as such does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope you will understand the reasons for this and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have information concerning the organization you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

COMM - FBI  
JAN 27 1955  
MAILED 19

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/13/83 BY SP4/BJP/BJP

Enclosure (1)

100 Things You Should Know About Communism in the U. S. A.

NOTE: Correspondent inquired regarding National Council of Churches. Bufiles reflect that the Federal Council of Churches which was incorporated into the National Council of

TED:ew  
1955 (3)

(Note continued on next page.)

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- ardman
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- Finterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Sandy

10 FEB 5

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[REDACTED]

January 27, 1955

**NOTE CONTINUED:**

Churches of Christ in America, was investigated with a limit to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950. No data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activity on the part of persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 1/26/55

FROM : SAC, New York (94-0-427)

SUBJECT: FEDERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
OF CHRIST IN AMERICA  
(FBI, Statistical Section)

Rebulet 1/10/55.

Miss BETTY BENEDICT, secretary to DONALD BOLLES, Director, Public Relations Department, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 297 Fourth Ave., N.Y.C., which was formerly known as the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, made available the enclosed releases all dated 7/30/54 which contain the information requested in rebulet.

1. Number of Sunday School Students - 35,389,466 ✓
2. Number of Sunday School Officers and Teachers - 2,741,929
3. Number of Schools (Church) - 262,084 ✓
4. Total annual gifts and contributions to religious bodies - \$1,401,114,217.

Miss BENEDICT advised that the above figures pertain to the calendar year 1953.

RECEIVED  
ENCLOSURE

1 cc of copy letter detached and filed with Encl.  
ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

UP

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 ch/ld

RECORDED - 77

EX-103

100-50869-270

REC'D BERG

JAN 11 1955

Feb. 1, 1955

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ehw/uk

100-50869-270X

ENCLOSURE

# NEWS

A federation of 30 American Churches, with 35,500,000 members, formed in 1950 to spread the Christian faith, carrying on the work of twelve interdenominational agencies at home and abroad. The nation's largest religious body.

from the **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE U.S.A.**

297 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • Oregon 4-5005 • PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT. • DONALD C. BOLLES, Director  
FLETCHER COATES, Associate Director

152R&S7/30/54

## Note to Editors:

Statistics from official statisticians of religious bodies do not include geographical breakdowns for states or cities. Nor do they include church attendance.

Councils of churches, and local Catholic and Jewish authorities may provide estimates of local membership.

FOR RELEASE IN AM'S, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 25

GUARD AGAINST PREMATURE PUBLICATION

NEW YORK, N.Y., Aug. 24 -- The nation's religious climate--judged by statistics alone--has never been better than it is now.

The United States has more church members, more Sabbath school members, more churches, and more ministers than at any time in its history. Church giving is also at an all-time high, and church building has expanded eight-fold since 1940.

Hearken to other statistics from the Yearbook of American Churches, which put on the books for 1953 new, all-time records for religious life in America, under the impetus of a mid-century religious revival that has been sustained since 1940:

Never before has such a large percentage of the nation's population been enrolled in the churches.

Six out of every ten persons are on church rolls--Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, and others. Percentage-wise it is 59.5, as against 49 percent in 1940.

Thirty million have joined churches since 1940, to bring the total number of members of all religious bodies in continental U.S. to 94,842,845. ✓ The net gain between 1952 and 1953 was 2,565,716--a 2.8 percent rise.

The enrollment in Sunday or Sabbath schools skyrocketed three times faster than church membership. An 8.1 percent gain brought the total to 35,389,466--✓ mostly young people in Protestant Sunday schools. This all-time high, ✓ including 2,741,929 teachers and officers, represents 22 percent of the nation's population.

Places of worship--churches and synagogues--increased 1.5 percent, in an effort to keep pace with the expanded membership. The 1953 additions were 9,082, and the grand total 294,359.

Clergymen in charge of local churches increased from 183,899 to 207,618, and the total ordained--including those retired and engaged in non-pastoral work--is 338,250. The record of clergymen with charges is incomplete--from 200 of the 268 religious bodies.

Church building approaches the half-billion mark. The 1953 figure of \$474,000,000 for new construction compares with \$59,000,000 in 1940.



Statistics gathered in 1953 showed that people gave 8.9 percent more to Protestant and Orthodox churches than in the previous year. The total--a per member average of \$41.94--was \$1,401,114,217. Figures are not made available by other religious bodies, but independent estimates indicate the grand total exceeds two billion dollars a year.

"A vigorous, sustained movement of Americans into the churches is reflected in every facet of the nation's religious life," said Dr. Benson Y. Landis, editor of the Yearbook of American Churches.

"Statistics measure the growth, but throw little light upon the reason for this mid-century renaissance. However, I believe the growth reflects shifting opinion in favor of a life that includes the spiritual and, in fact, is not complete without it. The unrelieved world crisis may contribute to the accelerated pace of the turn to the churches, but it must be remembered that there has been one crisis after another that has brought no sustained gains to the churches."

Dr. Landis said there were many other contributing factors to the growth of church and Sunday school memberships--a phenomenal increase in the birth-rate; effective evangelistic efforts of the churches; and population moving from city to suburbs, with an accompanying increase in new churches to serve them.

The Yearbook, published by the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., is the only source of statistical data for all religious bodies in the continental United States. The new figures, mostly for 1953 and collected from official statisticians of all faiths, will appear in the Yearbook for 1955, scheduled for publication September 15.

The 2.8 percent gain in church membership in 1953 compared with a population gain of 1.7.

The nation's religiously-affiliated population of almost 95,000,000, when broken down into six major faith groups, shows the Protestants, with 55,000,000, first; Roman Catholics, with 31,000,000, second; and Jewish, with 5,000,000, third.

The relative strength of Protestant and Roman Catholic groups has remained virtually constant for more than 50 years.

From 1940 to 1953, Protestants increased from 37,814,606 to 55,837,325; Roman Catholics from 21,284,455 to 31,476,261. On a basis of ratio of membership to population for the same period, Protestants showed: 1940--28.7 percent; 1953--35.1 percent. Roman Catholics showed: 1940--16.1 percent; 1953--19.8 percent.

Figures for the six major groups in continental United States, for 1952 and 1953, follow:

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Protestant	54,229,963	55,837,325
Roman Catholic	30,253,427	31,476,261
Jewish Congregations	5,000,000	5,000,000
Eastern Orthodox	2,353,783	2,100,171
Old Catholic and Polish National Catholic	366,956	366,088
Buddhist	73,000	63,000
	<u>92,277,129</u>	<u>94,842,845</u>

(more)

There are also Muslims in the United States but the number is not reported.

The unofficial census of religious bodies, embracing 255 groups, shows that 98.2 percent are concentrated in 77. These groups, each with 50,000 or more members, include 18 that have more than 1,000,000 on their membership rolls.

Furthermore, Dr. Landis points out, the division numerically in the ranks of Protestantism is not as wide as indicated by the number of denominations reporting-- 255. Out of 55,000,000 Protestants, about 85 percent are embraced within nine general denominational families.

The Baptists are the largest Protestant groups. Divided among 25 bodies, there are 17,990,613. Methodists of 21 bodies are second, with 11,641,891. The largest single Protestant religious body is The Methodist Church, with 9,151,524. The Southern Baptist Convention, with 7,883,708, is second; and the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., with 4,526,847, is third.

The numerical increase in church membership was three times as fast in the period since 1940, as in the comparable period of 1926-1940. Ten million were added in the former period, compared to 30 million since 1940.

A table provided by Dr. Landis shows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Local Churches</u>	<u>Total Membership</u>
1926	232,154	54,576,346
1931	238,966	59,797,851
1936	245,422	63,493,036
1940	244,319	64,501,594
1950	281,511	86,830,490
1953	294,359	94,842,845

And to explode a widely-held notion that there were more religiously-minded Americans a hundred years ago than now, the Yearbook shows that less than 20 percent of the population held church membership in 1850. More than three times this percentage now are members.

# NEWS

A federation of 30 American Churches, with 35,500,000 members, formed in 1950 to spread the Christian faith, carrying on the work of twelve interdenominational agencies at home and abroad. The nation's largest religious body.

from the **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE U.S.A.**

297 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • DRegon 4-3005 • PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT. • DONALD C. BOLLES, Director  
FLETCHER COATES, Associate Director

154R&S7/30/54

FOR RELEASE AUGUST 25, 1954

(Guard Against Premature Publication)

HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE

from

The Yearbook of American Churches for 1955

published by the

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.  
297 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N.Y.

## Church Membership

More Americans belong to churches--Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, and others--than ever before in the country's history -- a total of 94,842,854, or six out of every ten persons in the Continental U. S.

Of the total U. S. population, 59.5 per cent are church members--a gain of 2.8 per cent over the previous year as against a population gain of 1.7 per cent for the same period.

Since 1940 the increase in church membership has been thirty million as compared with the years between 1926 and 1940 when the net increase was ten million.

Population percentage-wise, the number of church members has swelled since 1850. In that year 16 per cent of the population were church members. In 1900 the figure was 36 per cent; in 1954 -- 59.5 per cent.

## Major Faiths List Gains

The biggest numerical gain in 1953 is shown in the Protestant Churches which added a total of 1,607,362 members--an increase of 3 per cent for a total of 55,837,325. Protestant church membership is equal to 58.9 per cent of all U. S. church members, the same as in 1952 and in 1951.

Gain in Roman Catholic membership in 1953 was 1,223,824 or 4 per cent for a total of 31,476,261.

Population percentage-wise, the Protestants number 35.1 per cent in 1953 as compared with 28.7 per cent in 1940. Roman Catholics number 19.8 per cent as compared with 16.1 per cent in 1940.

(more)

The increase in Protestant church membership since 1926 has been 77.2 per cent. The increase in Roman Catholic membership during the same period has been 69.2 per cent.

Neither gain nor loss is shown in figures for Jewish congregations. The figure listed for both 1952 and 1953 is 5,000,000.

#### Local Churches

Places of worship in the U. S. number 294,359 as compared with 289,934 in 1952—a gain of 1.5 per cent. Average number of members of each last year was 322 as compared with 235 in 1926, an increase of 37 per cent and 265 in 1940, an increase of 21.5 per cent.

#### Sunday and Sabbath Schools

An unprecedented 22 per cent of the nation is enrolled in Sunday or Sabbath Schools in all religious bodies. The total is reported at 35,389,466, an increase of 2,750,587 or 8.1 per cent over the previous year. All but 7 per cent are Protestants.

✓ The number of schools listed in 1953 is 262,084 with a total of 2,741,929 teachers and officers.

#### Number of Clergy

A total of 207,618 pastors having charges was reported by 212 church bodies. The total number of ordained persons reported by them is 338,250.

Of this figure 189 Protestant bodies have 187,551 pastors with charges and a total of 287,593 ordained persons.

The Roman Catholic Church lists 15,835 pastors with charges and a total of 45,271 ordained persons.

# NEWS

A federation of 30 American Churches, with 35,500,000 members, formed in 1950 to spread the Christian faith, building on the work of twelve interdenominational agencies at home and abroad. The nation's largest religious body.

from the **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE U. S. A.**

297 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y. - Oregon 4-5005 - PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT. - DONALD C. BOLLES, Director  
FLETCHER COATES, Associate Director

153R&S7/30/54

FOR RELEASE AUGUST 25, 1954

## STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

1953 Statistics on Religious Bodies in the  
Continental United States

Compiled by

The Yearbook of American Churches

published by the

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.  
297 Fourth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.

### Continental United States

#### Church Membership & Number of Churches - By Religious Groups

	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Churches</u>
Buddhist .....	63,000	48
Old Catholic and Polish National Catholic .	366,088	256
Eastern Orthodox .....	2,100,171	1,340
Jewish .....	5,000,000	3,990
Roman Catholic .....	31,476,261	20,618
Protestant .....	55,837,325	268,107

#### Protestant Denomination Membership

(The membership of major Protestant denominations is listed below. Figures given in parenthesis following the name indicate the number of member bodies reporting in the group.)

Baptist (25 bodies) .....	17,990,613
Protestant Episcopal .....	2,550,831
Methodist (21 bodies) .....	11,641,891
Lutheran (20 bodies) .....	6,608,951
Presbyterian (10 bodies) .....	3,635,077
Eastern Orthodox (19 bodies) .....	2,100,171

(more)

Church Membership as Percentage of the Population

1850	16%	1930	47%
1860	23%	1950	57%
1900	36%	1953	59.5%
1910	43%		

Protestants as Percentage of the Total Population

1926	27.0%
1940	28.7%
1950	33.8%
1953	35.1%

Roman Catholics as Percentage of the Total Population

1926	16.0%
1940	16.1%
1950	18.9%
1953	19.8%

Major U.S. Church Bodies With More Than 1,000,000 Members

Roman Catholic Church .....	31,476,261
Methodist Church .....	9,151,524
Southern Baptist Convention .....	7,883,708
Jewish Congregations .....	5,000,000
National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. ....	4,526,847
National Baptist Convention of America .....	2,606,510
Protestant Episcopal Church .....	2,550,831
Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. ....	2,492,504
United Lutheran Church in America .....	2,061,004
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod .....	1,850,100
Disciples of Christ, International Convention .....	1,847,954
Christ Unity Science Church .....	1,581,286
American Baptist Convention .....	1,557,816
Churches of Christ .....	1,500,000
Congregational Christian Churches .....	1,283,754
African Methodist Episcopal Church .....	1,166,301
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints .....	1,077,285
Greek Archdiocese of North and South America .....	1,000,000

Nat.

Council of the Churches of

in the United States of America

Division of Christian Education

COMMISSION ON GENERAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

29 East Adams Street (Adams Street at Michigan Avenue) Chicago 3, Illinois

THE RT. REV. HENRY KNOX SHERRILL  
President

REV. SAMUEL MC CREA CAVERT  
General Secretary

REV. ROY G. ROSS  
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REV. ERWIN L. SHAVER  
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Weekday Religious Education

PEARL ROSSER  
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Audio-Visual and Radio  
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REV. ELMER G. MILLION  
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Audio-Visual and Radio  
Education

REV. JOHN C. TREVER  
Executive Director  
Department of English Bible

REV. VIMOL E. FOSTER  
Editor  
International Journal  
of Religious Education

REV. PERCY R. HAYWARD  
Editor Emeritus  
International Journal  
of Religious Education

LILLIAN WILLIAMS  
Managing Editor  
International Journal  
of Religious Education

HELEN F. SPAULDING  
Associate Executive Director  
Educational Program

REV. WILLIAM H. VASTINE  
Executive Director  
Inter-Group Education

February 1, 1955

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Your letter of January 24 has been received along with the materials which you enclosed. I believe that there is a great deal in them that will be of very practical help to our committee.

Thank you again for taking the time to care for our request.

Sincerely,

*Alice L. Goddard*

Mrs. Alice L. Goddard  
Executive Director  
Department of Children's Work

ALG:ih

RECORDED-41

INDEXED-47

100-50864-271

FEB 2 1955

NO ACK  
Reply by 1/24/55  
UNFILED

392  
67 FEB 10 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP/whj

b7C

[Redacted]

March 25, 1955

Federal Bur. of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Please inform me concerning the best sources of information available regarding Communism in the various churches.

I am interested in knowing whether the Church of the Brethren is Communistic.

I have heard a report to that effect. Is the Militant Truth, published in Atlanta, Georgia, a reliable Publication?

Is the National Council of Churches considered Communistic?

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely, *gc*

[Redacted]

b7C

*mm  
ack 3-30-55  
KGE*

RECORDED-12

100-50869-272

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ok

CRIM. REC. 11



100 - 50869 - 272

RECORDED-12

March 30, 1955

INDEXED-12

EX-117  
b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of March 25, 1955, has been received, and while I would like to be of service, it is not possible to give any information concerning the organizations and publication you mentioned.

I wish to point out that the FBI is primarily a fact-gathering agency, and its files are confidential and available for official use only. It is not within the purview of our investigative authority to draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer that the FBI does or does not have information concerning the groups you mentioned. I am taking the liberty of enclosing some material which you may find interesting.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMM - FBI  
MAR 31 1955  
MAILED 28

Enclosures (4)

Where Do We Stand Today With Communism in the United States?  
The Communists are After Our Minds.  
Foe To Freedom  
McCarran Report on Communism

NOTE: Correspondent requests data concerning affiliation or influences in the (1) Church of the Brethren, (2) the publication "Militant Truth," and (3) National Council of Churches. Bufile 100-50869 indicates that a check was made with informants in the New York area in 1950 concerning the National Council of Churches of Christ. No data was developed indicating any Communistic or

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP5/BJH

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

APR 7 1955

RGE:kk  
(3)

(See next page)

*File*  
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*me*

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
F. B. I.

b7c

Letter to [REDACTED]

March 30, 1955

**NOTE (continued)**  
subversive activities on the part of any persons  
affiliated with the organization.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) State Department, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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b7C

[Redacted]

May 5, 1955

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. U.S.A.

Dear Sirs:

Please give the following information in relation to the organization of ~~United Church Women of Oklahoma~~, which is affiliated with the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

Is this organization in sympathy or associated with the Communist movement in any way?

Has it at any time or in any way been subversive to our American Democratic Way of Life?

As a citizen of this great country of ours, and one who is interested in the welfare of all worthy organizations, I desire this information.

Yours truly,

[Redacted]

b7C

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K  
REC'D  
MAY 6 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 chf/ef

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100-50869-274  
MAY 5 1955

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OFFICE  
[Signature]

May 11, 1955

RECORDED-43

100-50869-274

b7c

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of May 3, 1955, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/elm/jat

NOTE: Numerous inquiries concerning the National Council of Churches and its affiliated groups were received by the Bureau, and the only derogatory data concerning these groups was received from rival church organizations. An investigation limited to our New York Office, in 1950, failed to disclose any facts substantiating subversive activities on the part of any of those affiliated with the Council. (100-50869)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DCL:rwj  
(3)

COMM - FBI  
MAY 11 1955

66 MAY 19 1955

RECEIVED SECURITY DEPT  
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Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

5-9-55

20112

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has been brought to my attention that your Department Classified the Federal Council of Churches, the predecessor of the National Council of Churches of the U.S. as a Subversive. I am writing to see if you will verify that a violation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/28/95 BY SP4/2014

*See routing slip on routing slip*

RECORDED - 72

100-201-270

10 MAY 20 1955

EX - 124

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*b7c*  
[REDACTED]

5-9-55

20117

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has been brought to my attention that your Department classified the Federal Council of Churches, the predecessor of the National Council of Churches of the U.S., as subversive. I am writing to see if you will verify that accusation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

*b7c*

/s/ [REDACTED]

COPY:hmb (1)

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Bureau of Investigation*

*MAIL ROOM 5-11  
DEC 2*

*ATC*  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/2/83 BY SP4/whf/whf

20116

100-50869-275

May 17, 1955

G.I.R.-8

RECORDED - 72  
INDEXED - 72

124

b7c



Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated May 9, 1955, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I wish to advise that the FBI has never made a statement concerning the group you named, since we are strictly a fact-finding agency and do not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual. I would like to take this occasion also to point out that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only.

I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or do not have information concerning the group you mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMM - FBI  
MAY 18 1955  
MAILED 28

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
MAY 17 5 16 PM '55  
FBI  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
*[Handwritten signature]*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/88 BY SP/SLH/SLH

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869).

MAY 25 1955

DCL: jbx  
(3)

*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*



September 9, 1955

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
OF CHRIST IN U.S.A.  
297 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York**

**FUND FOR THE REPUBLIC**

The report of the Fund for the Republic, dated 5/31/55, stated that \$10,000 had been awarded to the Department of Racial and Cultural Relations of the National Council of Churches of Christ in U.S.A. (NCCC). This money was to be used for a study of racial discrimination.

The Bureau has conducted no investigation concerning the NCCC. In November, 1953, a pamphlet issued by the organization stated that the NCCC, which was organized in 1950, was a fellowship of thirty national denominations representing most of the major historic bodies of American christianity, except Roman Catholics. The membership of the organization at that time was 35 million. (94-1-31672-11)

Our files reflect voluminous correspondence concerning the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America (FCCCA), the predecessor of NCCC. Allegations have been received from individuals and rival church groups stating that many leaders in FCCCA follow the Communist Party (CP) line and have been members of numerous CP front groups. In July, 1950, the New York Office conducted an inquiry limited to confidential informants of that office as well as public statements issued by FCCCA and rival organizations. This inquiry failed to develop any substantial evidence that the organization was Communist dominated. Because of the controversial nature of both FCCCA and NCCC, the Bureau has repeatedly declined to issue a statement on the organizations. (100-50869)

There are listed hereinafter typical examples of controversial statements which have appeared in publications concerning FCCCA and NCCC:

A pamphlet entitled "How Red is the Federal Council of Churches" was published by the American Council of Christian Laymen in Madison, Wisconsin, which was copyrighted in 1949, set forth a list of Council leaders, together with their affiliation with cited organizations. The pamphlet stated that the FCCCA went underground in November, 1950, by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name of National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S.A., but that the aims, programs and leaders were unchanged.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

S.H. Rogers: pup  
Original - 100-391697  
Yellow - 100-50869

NOT RECORDED  
191 NOV 22 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/22/89 BY [signature]

6 NOV 22 1955 1394

FCCCA subsequently published a pamphlet entitled "Out the Federal Council of Churches" which was an answer to various attacks, particularly to accusations made in the pamphlet "New Red is the Federal Council of Churches." The executive committee of FCCCA stated that the Council has explicitly and vigorously repudiated Communism; that the men who published the critical article concerning FCCCA were "too confused to be able to distinguish between the man of progress seeking social reform within the general pattern of our American way of life, and the Communists who seek to overthrow our system." (100-50869-124)

Our files contain a pamphlet entitled "What is Wrong with the Federal Council? Now Known as the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.," published in 1950 by W. O. H. Garman. Dr. Garman is President of the American Council of Christian Churches, which organization split off from FCCCA in 1941. The publication stated that FCCCA is anti-American and has championed a "near Communism." Dr. Garman alleged the Rockefeller millions have been tapped to finance the pet projects of the Federal Council in its efforts to destroy the free economy of America and to promote world socialism. Our files contain a pamphlet Dr. Garman wrote in May, 1953, listing Communist front connections of eight translators of the National Council of Churches' revised standard version of the Bible. (94-37557-10, 16)

During the review of our files, it was noted that much of the information appearing in the public source statements concerning alleged Communist front activity on the part of leaders in FCCCA and NCCC was taken from published reports of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

SAC, New York (94-0-427)

10/20/55

Director, FBI (94-1-31672)

CHURCH STATISTICS  
(FBI, Statistical Section)

Reurlet 1/26/55.

In January of this year Miss Betty Benedict, secretary to Donald Bolles, Director, Public Relations Department, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 297 Fourth Avenue, New York City, which was formerly known as the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, gave you statistics which you forwarded to the Bureau. We would like to get similar information for the Calendar Year 1954. Items of interest are as follows:

1. Number of Sunday School Students.
2. Number of Sunday School Officers and Teachers.
3. Number of Sunday Schools or Schools (Church).
4. Total annual gifts and contributions to religious bodies.

MMR:mwp  
(5)

*mwp*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY 304/clw/af

RECORDED - 77

100-50869-275  
~~94-1-31672~~

807 - 75

OCT 25 1955

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Cassons \_\_\_\_\_  
Losen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Sico \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI  
OCT 20 1955  
MAILED 30

MAY 7 1959

~~OCT 31 1955~~

*Adler*

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) State Department, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
100-50869-276

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Nov. 10, 1955

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I know you are a busy man but I didn't know who else to write to except you about a matter which is very important - to me and to our local church. I would like to know whether the information on the pamphlet enclosed, "How Red is the National Council of Churches", is correct. There is listed here a number of Federal Council (or National Council) leaders who, it says, have helped Communist organizations and been affiliated with them. Also have any of these individuals been actually cited for un-American activities?

I am especially interested to know about W. Russell Bowie and Luther A. Weigle, as they were two who helped work on the Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

I would appreciate it very much if you would give me as much information as you can because it is

really a matter of concern. If the pamphlet is correct certainly people should know it. Many churches would withdraw from the Council if they did know it. My immediate concern, of course, is right here and

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/23 BY SP/...

RECORDED 13  
INDEXED 13

100-501-27

EX-118

NOV 18 1955

CRIME/REC

ack 11-17  
CEM

I would certainly appreciate a reply. Enclosed find stamped, self-addressed envelope. Thank you, and may the Lord bless you in your work and be your constant Guide.

b7c

[REDACTED]

RECEIVED  
FBI  
NOV 14 4 49 PM '55  
MR. JONES  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

REC'D. RECORDS SEC

NOV 14 4 05 PM '55

11-14

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4llw/dz

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-277

# HOW RED IS THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES?

At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name.



READ THE FACTS INSIDE AND  
DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS

100-50869-277



G.I.R. - 7

November 17, 1955

100-50869-277  
RECORDED 13

INDEXED - 13  
b7c

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of November 10, 1955, with enclosures, has been received, and while I would like to be of service, information in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only.

I would like to add that the FBI is a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I am sure that you will appreciate the need for such a policy and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

The Attorney General of the United States has the authority to designate organizations as subversive pursuant to Executive Order 10450, and a list of such organizations may be obtained by directing a request to the Department of Justice, attention: Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, Washington 25, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*WAV*

COMM - FBI  
NOV 17 1955  
MAILED 20

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/28/88 BY SP4/klk

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Investigation by the New York Office in 1950 reflected that no data was developed indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with the Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America. (100-50869)

CEM: jsm:jfm [Stamp not clear] (3)

62 NOV 29 1955

*MA*  
*10/28/88*  
*SP4/klk*  
*CEM*

b7C



Nov. 11, 1955

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director of the United States Federal  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

35 Nov. 22 1955

Dear Sir:

Will you please give me the facts  
about the National Council of the  
Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.?  
Who are the leaders who are - or have  
been working with the Communist  
movements?

RECORDED - 33

100-50869-278

Are they helping the Communists  
destroy Christianity and America?  
If so, the Church members should  
know it.

NOV 22 1955

Very truly yours,



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/12/88 BY SP4/ehs/gh

2 ENCL  
239 stamps

mmg  
11-22-55  
REC  
b7C

*Jan*

RECORDED - 33

November 29, 1955

EX-12100-50869-278

INDEXED-33

AIRMAIL

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked November 20, 1955, with enclosures, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*Samuel J. [unclear]*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/85 BY SP4 [unclear]

COMM - FBI  
NOV 29 1955  
MAILED 20

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

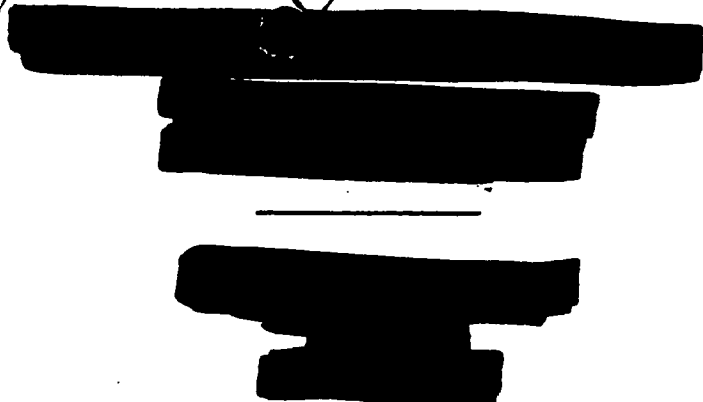
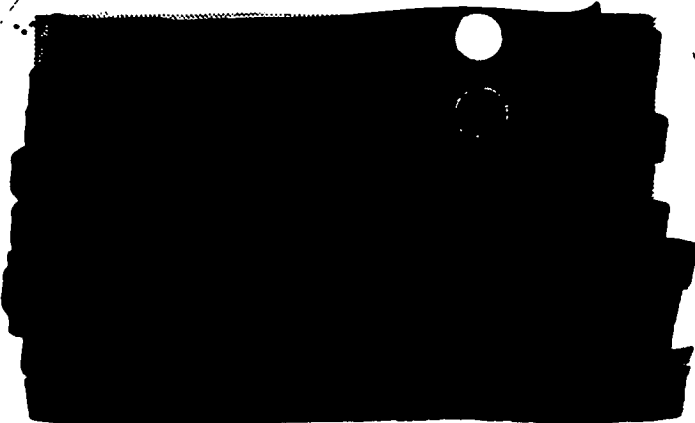
NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any Communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869) Correspondent's enclosures were 2 three-cent stamps which are being utilized in forwarding the acknowledgment Airmail.

CE: DUG: 8  
(3)

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

b7C



November 23, 1955

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Director J. Edgar Hoover

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am the Pastor of a small Baptist church located in Southern Wisconsin. This church at present is a member of the American Baptist Convention. I want you to know that I am a born again Christian. That I realize that it was no work of my own that gave me my Eternal Salvation but that through believing on the Lord Jesus Christ and the fact that He died upon the cross for my sin and that He arose again on the third day from the dead, I have eternal life, because I applied personally to myself what Christ did for the whole world. Enough of myself, except to say, that I am a graduate of the Moody Bible Institute.

I have recently brought up in my church board meeting that the American Baptist Convention is Modernistic, that is denies many of the Bible truths that are essential to Salvation or belief in God in any degree, and that also the Convention is a member of the National Council of Churches which to me is the very baby of Satan himself and is fed by communistic disciples who have twisted minds and hearts. Now I realize that this is a strong accusation to make, but I have heard of men in the National Council of Churches that deny God Himself, Jesus Christ, and the Virgin Birth of Christ as well as His atoning death upon the cross. Is not this one of the main doctrines of the Communist Party? Also is understood by the writer that the F.B.I. is aware of many of the leaders of the N.C.ofC. that are connected with subversive organizations.

What I would appreciate you doing, is this: Would you be willing to send to me any information that can be made public concerning your own opinion or the judgement of the F.B.I. upon this National Council of Churches? I understand that you are a Christian and I rejoice to know that. Let me assure you that my personal prayers will be with you in your duty as the leader of the world's Greatest and most efficient law enforcement agency. I hope that you will be able to provide me with some information.

Thank you so very much, Yours sincerely,

A friendly Country Church where we "preach" *Communist*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/82 BY SP/MLK/ky

File  
12/2/55  
11-30-55  
DCB

RECORDED-99

100-50829-279

*du*

*W.C. Sullivan*

RECORDED-99  
INDEXED-99

100-50869-279

December 2, 1955

Jul  
EX-107  
b7c

[REDACTED]

Information

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated November 23, 1955, has been received, and I want to thank you for your prayers and your generous comments concerning the FBI.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMM - FBI  
DEC 5 - 1955  
MAILED 28

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/82 BY SP/wh/wh

NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning Federal Council of Churches, later incorporated into National Council of Churches of Christ in America; however, much of this data came from rival church groups. An investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950, reflected that no data was developed indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of any persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

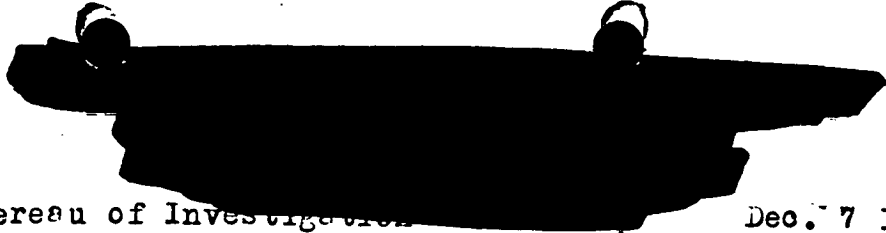
248

DEC 3 1955

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
4 58 PM '55

Mag  
DCL  
John  
WPN

b7c



The Federal Bureau of Investigation

Dec. 7 1955.

Washington D.C.  
Gentlemen,

As I am a church worker I desire some information. It has been talked around here that the David C. Cook Publishing Co. of Elgin Ill. are affiliated with the "World Council of Churches" and the ~~American~~ National Council of Churches of Christ (U.S.A.) and that the two above mentioned are controlled by the "Communist Party."

Also it is rumored that they print the New revised Version of the Bible and that it does not contain all the chapters and verses that the King James Version has.

Would you please give us what information you can concerning this matter and it will be greatly appreciated.

Yours Very Truly,



b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/9/83 BY SP4 [signature]

NML 16  
wh/12-14-55  
RGE

RECORDED-48  
INDEXED-48

EX-125  
A 2 DEC 10 1955  
FBI  
DEC 10 1955  
COMM. REC.

100-32869-280

6 DEC 23 1955

CRIM. REC.  
[signature]

N

RECORDED-48

INDEXED-48

100-50869-280

December 16, 1955

*Z*  
*b7c*

EX-125



Dear

Your letter of December 7, 1955, has been received. While I would like to be of service in connection with your inquiry, data in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only.

Furthermore, this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and draws no conclusions as to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication.

I am sure you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or do not have information concerning the subjects of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMM - FBI  
DEC 16 1955  
MAILED 28

NOTE: The National Council of Churches of Christ in America was formed out of the Federal Council of Churches. Certain derogatory information received concerning the Federal Council of Churches led to an investigation confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950. No data was developed indicating any communistic or subversive activities on the part of this organization or any of the persons affiliated with it. (100-50869)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/16/88 BY SP4/abp/hh

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RGE:meb  
(3)

71 DEC 22 1955

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
*W. J. ...*  
*MAJ*  
*me*  
*per*

b7c

[REDACTED]  
March 6, 1956

(4)

J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Recently I was severely criticized for belonging to a church (Methodist) that is a member of the National Council of Churches. I was told it was staffed and many of its important leaders were Communists or had Communistic leanings since they had been associated previously with Federal Council of Churches, which definitely was Communistic. Naturally I was overwhelmed by their accusations. I had no evidence to refute their charges while they produced pamphlets and other data on the subject. I was also advised that the new Revised Bible was written by persons with Communistic beliefs to stir up discontent among church peoples.

Being a stubborn woman and one who likes to know the true facts about any situation, as near as possible, I am presumptuous enough to write asking for information.

Is it true that the National Council of Churches has communistic tendencies? One of the pamphlets given me to emphasize this point is published by the American Council of Christian Laymen, 122 W. Washington, Ave., Madison 1, Wisconsin, under the title: "How Red is the (Federal) National Council of Churches?" I should like to quote one paragraph.

"At a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 28 to Dec 1, 1950, the Federal Council of Churches 'went underground' by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agencies under the name of National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. The Federal Council will not surrender its legal charter, and its aims, programs and leadership are unchanged, although it is operating under a new name."

There are many well known person's names listed as "pinks", whom I have admired through their writings and lectures for years. It is hard to believe that my ideas may need to be changed about them.

Any information you can send me or where I may obtain such information will be greatly appreciated, either good or bad. My faith in myself and my fellowman has been rudely shaken.

100-50869-281  
Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

RECORDED-95  
INDEXED-95

EX - 124

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/13/83 BY SP/ckh/af

nmf  
3-14-56  
O.C.K.

[Handwritten initials]



March 14, 1956

RECORDED-95

INDEXED-95

100-50869-281

124

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter dated March 6, 1956, has been received.

Although I deeply appreciate the concern prompting your writing me, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten signature]*

NOTE: Certain derogatory information received concerning the Federal Council of Churches led to an investigation confined to contacts of the New York Office in 1950. No data was developed indicating any subversive activities on the part of the organization or any of the persons affiliated with it. (100-50869)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/18/83 BY SP4/MLH

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

66 MAR 20 1956

(3)

MAILED 8  
MAR 14 1956  
COMM. FBI

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

b7c

[REDACTED]

March 12, 1956

[REDACTED]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I write to you seeking information and help. A few weeks ago Edgar C. Bundy, of whom I know very little, spoke here in Lubbock. Most of his remarks were an attack against the National Council of Churches. One statement he made was, and I quote his exact words, "Communism has been most successful in the churches of America".

I realize that in the church there are those who are extremely to the left, and those who have been misguided and led astray. I cannot, however, believe the above statement.

I do not know how much information you and your department release or are permitted to release to the public. I would deeply appreciate, however, receiving any facts you could send me on these two questions. First, is it true that communism has been most successful in our churches, and if not are our churches a bulwark against communism?

Secondly, is the National Council of Churches aiding communism by going along with communistic ideas such as collectivism and socialistic principles? Bundy made this claim in his address.

I hope that my requests are not out of line. I will greatly appreciate whatever information you can furnish, and trust I will hear from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED SIGNATURE] 2280

EX-125  
RECORDED - 88

INDEXED-88

MAR 20 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/12/83 BY SP4/ah/jd

P.S. Any other information that you  
can give on the above matter would also be  
appreciated

March 16, 1956

100-50869-282

RECORDED 88

INDEXED-88

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

EX-125

Your letter dated March 12, 1956, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Enclosed is some material available for general distribution by the FBI relating to the general subject of communism which you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMM - FBI  
MAR 16 1956  
MAILED 30

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/10/83 BY SP/6/bk

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (6)

Director's statement 3/26/47 before Committee on Un-American Activities

The Underground Tactics of the Communists

Unmasking The Communist Masquerader

God Or Chaos?

Where Do We Stand Today With Communism In The U.S.?

Breaking the Communist Spell

6 COPIES... (See next page)

DCL: sak  
(3)

MAR 16 1956

*John Edgar Hoover*

*del*

b7C  
Letter to [REDACTED]

March 16, 1956

b7C  
**NOTE:** Bufiles reflect numerous inquiries have been received by the Bureau concerning Captain Edgar C. Bundy who has been conducting an anticommunist lecturing tour throughout the United States. [REDACTED]

The Bureau conducted an investigation confined to statistics of the New York Office relative to the Federal Council of Churches in 1950; no subversive activities disclosed. (100-50869)

b7C



April 26, 1956

8-1

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

*Walter D. Lawrence of Churches of Christ*

Dear Sir:

I am wondering if your office can give me any information on the National Council of Churches, and its counterpart, the World Council of Churches. That is, are these organizations questionable as far as their activities with Soviet Russia are concerned. Should they be given financial support by our local churches.

Many thanks for your help in this.

Very truly yours,



b7C

25/1507  
INDEXED FILED IN 100

*Arch 5-3-56  
Ding*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/bj/4

RECORDED - 15/100 - 50869 - 2  
SE-32

20 MAY 8 1956

ORIGINAL FILED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 4, 1956

100-50869-283 ~~X~~

INDEXED - 15

RECORDED - 15

EX - 120 Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated April 26, 1956, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication, or individual.

I know you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Classified by SP1/MSK/dk  
Declassify on: OADR 2/4/84

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

NOTE: Bufile 100-231551 reflects that the Bureau followed the activities of the Assembly of the World Council of Churches at Evanston, Illinois, in 1955.

[redacted] Bufiles reflect that no data has ever been developed by the Bureau indicating any communist or subversive activities on the part of persons affiliated with the National Council of Churches.

COMM - FBI  
MAY 4 1956  
MAILED 20

(3) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- Tolson
- Boardman
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Quinn
- Nease
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

MAY 17 1956

L:mbk  
(3)

M J...  
DCL

23/15-11



b7C C



C.



May 24, 1956

The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

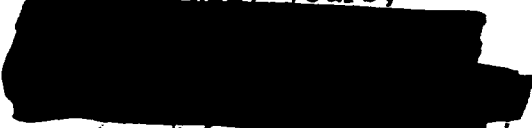
Dear Sirs:

It has been reported in circles here that some of the members of the Board and Committee which gave us the Revised Standard Version of the Bible are listed in your office as "subversives".

Such accusation seems to me to be a very serious one, the truth of which seems incredible. However, because it is an issue in our community I am writing to ask you, if it is possible to comply with such request, to state whether any member or members of the Revision Board and Committee are now, or have ever been, listed with you as Communists or Communist sympathizers or "subversives". I am enclosing an official copy of a publication of the National Council of Churches, in which all names of scholars related to this work are listed on pages 18, 19, 20,<sup>21</sup> and 22.

Your kindness in replying to this inquiry will be most helpful in answering questions which have been raised in our community. Please accept my hearty thanks in advance.

Respectfully yours,



b7C

RECORDED-20

100-50869-284  
675

MAY 28 1956

*Robertus*  
~~Robertus~~

5-JR

35  
EXP. PROC.  
MAY 28 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/89 BY SP4/MLH/...

ENCLOSURE  
20

ack lp  
cc - 4-56  
mJR

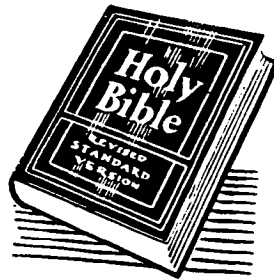
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [signature]

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-284



*An Open Letter  
concerning the Revised  
Standard Version  
of the Bible*



*This is the first of a series of pamphlets  
which will be issued from time to time  
for the promotion of the use and understanding  
of the Bible. Those who wish to receive a  
copy of other pamphlets when published  
should send their names and addresses  
to the publishing houses of their denominations or  
to the office of the*

*Division of Christian Education,  
National Council of Churches,  
257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.*

---

**DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
National Council of the Churches  
of Christ in the U.S.A.

257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

79 E. Adams Street, Chicago 3, Illinois

100-79857-504

June 4, 1956

100-50869-284

RECORDED-20

INDEXED - 20

EX-296  
b7c



Dear

Your letter dated May 24, 1956, with the enclosure, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I wish to advise that the FBI, as a fact-gathering agency, does not issue evaluations of organizations, publications or individuals under any circumstances. Furthermore, data contained in the files of this Bureau is maintained as confidential and available for official use only in accordance with a Departmental regulation. No inference should be drawn because of my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have in our files information concerning the individuals of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMM - FBI

JUN - 4 1956

MAILED 24

Bufile 100-50869-284

cc - Indianapolis (See Note, Page 2)

MJR:lfj

(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/8/83 BY SPK/whk

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
M. J. R. (with circled 'M')  
J. W. B.  
J. H. T.  
J. K. P.

b7C

Letter to 

SAC, Indianapolis:

Correspondent asks whether any of the members of the Revision Board and Committee whose names are set out on pages eighteen through twenty-two of an enclosed pamphlet and who prepared the Revised Standard Version of the Bible have been listed by the FBI as subversive. The letter states that the Bureau has reportedly listed those individuals.

His letter enclosed a pamphlet entitled "An Open Letter Concerning the Revised Standard Version of the Bible" issued by the "Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y., and 79 E. Adams Street, Chicago 3, Illinois."

Bureau files contain no information identifiable with correspondent. The files reflect receipt of numerous inquiries concerning the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and individuals affiliated with the group which has been severely criticized by rival church groups who have used part of a statement by the Director before the Un-American Activities Committee. An inquiry confined to contacts with individuals was made by New York Office in 1950 and disclosed no evidence of subversive activities on the part of the individuals affiliated with the organization.

J. Edgar Hoover  
United States Dept. of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D.C.

cc

Dear Mr Hoover;

I'm very much interested about the fact some stupid organization has given authority to those so called Russian church leaders to enter this country and roam from place to place gathering all information they can find to carry back to their country.

Those so-called Russian church leaders are nothing but Communist leaders making a Mock of God to deceive, to deceive the people in this country, the Russians know the American people are interested in anything concerning the church, and the Russians decide to rise up and pretend to be big church leaders and come to America and deceive thousands of people in the churches in this country, because the Communist know America has plenty of stupid people who will believe any thing they say, the American people think the Russians are trying to make peace between Russia and America, but they are only trying to take over this country through the churches by deceiving the people to believe the Russians who are here in this country, (who came here last week) are great believers in God and great church leaders.

I would like to be able to be an agent and be assigned to follow them while they travel through this country, if I knew they would not kill me if I could have my job long enough, I don't claim to be so smart, altho' I think I could trap them (those Russians).

RECORDED - 72 JUN 25 1956

Those refugees who came to America from other countries greeted those Russians at Idlewild airport with pamphlets which read, go back to your own country, you Communist, spies and devils,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/16/83 BY SP4/MLK

ack  
cc  
6/22/56  
R

ENCLOSURE

you destroyed our churches,  
"Thank God," for this country where we have Freedom of speech and Freedom to act, for God and our Country, those refugees knew they had a right in this country they knew they could call those Russians spies, devils and Communist and the Russians could not stop them "Thank God," those refugees are free from those monsters who are trying to take over the world and kill all who believe in God, the Communist made remarks they will come into this country and work with the Christians in the churches until they get this country in their control and they will smash our God, I get all my information from church papers, these are true facts because they are published by people who keep up with world affairs.

Mr Hosner, please, help us keep our good old U.S.A. free from Communism, I believe you are doing all you can and all that you get information on, you need more information, the Communist are trying to take over in offices, churches, and organizations the Russians pretend to claim Christ to get the American people to follow them, some are being deceived and they will try to deceive others.

The Russians are behind the negro's (~~segregation~~ segregation) keeping up a confusion in this country, they think if they can get a war started between the white + colored people they (the Russians) will come over and whip us I can read between lines I read the news papers and I can see these things are creeping upon us, I'm not easily convinced in to other people's plots, I know when people are pretending and when they mean business, they certainly can't fool me.

Those Russians (so-called church leaders) left Nashville Tenn Sat. June 9, 1956. they are headed west for Texas and all those western states.

Please, investigate the National (Churches) Council of Churches and find who is leading it (I have learned it is Communist leaders) don't think I'm silly writing you this, I'm very upset over the things taking place in this country, I wish I had the nerve to help investigate, if I had some one to go with me at all times I could have the nerve. (Over)

b7c



may God Bless you  
Mr Hoover as you  
are doing your best,  
I wish I could help somehow,  
other than write this letter,

(3)

these so called Church leaders from Russia  
are Communist spies entered into this  
country under the mock of God, here is a picture  
of one pretending to ordain a deacon in a church,  
you can see fire in his eyes, he is the devil  
in sheeps cloths, you may already have them under  
investigation for all I know, but I trust you have,  
for they will no doubt they will do some nasty thing  
before they are caught.

How the devil does work through some people  
to take the advantage of others,

These Russians (Communists) went into other  
countries pretending to be church leaders and  
destroyed their churches and took over their  
countries and now they have started here in  
America and it wont be long until they will take  
over this country through the churches by making  
a mock of God and deceiving the people in  
America, making some of the American people  
think they can prevent war among Russia and  
the U.S.A. sure it will prevent war between the  
two countries by giving Communist a chance  
to take over through churches and offices  
without war, if they get to take over that  
way they will fight to take over this country,  
they are behind the colored people (the Communist)  
trying to get them on their side so they will  
fight for the Communist, if we have to have war  
the negro's must learn this, which they do not know.  
they must know somehow what the Communist are trying to do.

RECEIVED  
JAN 13 1956  
MR. JONES

RECEIVED  
JAN 14 1956  
INTERNAL SECURITY SECT.

# Hair-Snipped in Ceremony



*Nikolai (Communist)* —AP Wirephoto  
NEW YORK — Visiting Russian Metropolitan Nikolai snips lock of hair from head of Andrew Woronovich of Baltimore in ceremony at Russian Orthodox Cathedral of St. Nicholas here as he ordained Woronovich a church deacon. Ordination was part of a pontifical liturgy held for Metropolitan Nikolai and seven other Soviet churchmen who arrived on a United States visit as guests of the National Council of Churches.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/13/83 BY SPK/klp

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-285

cc - Mr. Bozamus

3

RECORDED - 72

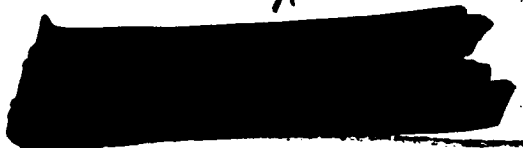
INDEXED - 72

100-50869-285

June 21, 1956

JM

b7c



\*

JH

8-1

Dear Madam:

Your letter postmarked June 11, 1956, with the enclosure has been received. You may be assured that the observations set out in your communication are being made a matter of record in the files of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc - Memphis

Correspondent's letter consisting of three pages is somewhat rambling and states in substance as follows:

COMM - FBI  
JUN 21 1956  
MAILED 31

She is concerned about some "stupid organization" permitting Russian church leaders to tour the United States. She would like to conduct a surveillance on those Russians if she knew they would not kill her. She requests that the National Council of Churches be investigated for sponsoring the Russians.

Her letter enclosed a newspaper clipping reporting a religious ceremony involving one of the Russian church leaders.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mason \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MJR:lfj (Note on Yellow, pages 2/3 2nd BH .22)  
(4)

50 JUL 2 1956

7112

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/ew/pt

213  
3 510 BH .22

FBI  
7973



b7c

Letter to   


b7c



The files reflect that an inquiry confined to contacts with informants was made by New York Office in 1950 pertaining to the National Council of Churches and disclosed no evidence of subversive activities on the part of individuals affiliated with the organization. Coverage of the Russian church leaders was given in accordance with Bureau instructions. (100-50869)

NOTE ON YELLOW:

b7c



Reading Room: Please use stamp signature.

b7C [Redacted]  
July 2, 1956.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I read, with much interest, your article in The Sunday Bulletin,  
titled, "America Needs Full-Time Patriots".

After reading your article, I am anxious to know your opinion  
of our collaboration with the Red Clergy, through exchange visits  
arranged for by the National Council Churches.

As you probably, already, know there is a minority group known as  
the American Council of Christian Churches raising opposition  
in this issue but with relatively small support.

Your opinion in this matter will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

621 X

*0 National Council of the Churches  
Christ in the U.S.A.*

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4ew/abj**

*4-2-56  
ack 7-4-56  
EJ-3*

RECORDED-85

*100-55867-286*

14 JUL 11 1956

*CRIME REC.*

100-50869-286

July 9, 1956

INDEXED-85  
RECORDED-85

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated July 2, 1956, has been received, and although I would like to be of service, it is not within the area of my authority to make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know that you will understand my position in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record on correspondent.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4 [Signature]

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ELJ: b1h ulh  
10(3) a 35 V.H. 24

66 JUL 12 1956

F350  
[Signature]

FBI  
COMM - FBI

COMM - FBI  
JUL 9 1956  
MAILED 25

[Handwritten signatures and stamps]

548

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mason	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

*J. Edgar Hoover*

September 3, 1956

Mr. John Edgar Hoover  
Director of F. B. I.  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Your articles in various Christian magazines indicate that you are a man of sound convictions; because of this fact I mail you the enclosed booklet: "What Is Wrong with the Federal Council" now known as the "National Council of the Churches of Christ" in the U. S. A.

I will not ask you to commit your information to me concerning the charges in this booklet, unless you desire to do so, or unless you feel it is safe in the light of Communist power in America. Nor do I seek to involve you in any "religious" controversy, but I do wonder, ARE THESE THINGS SO?!

I, of course, am not a member of this church group, rather I am just a small, insignificant Baptist preacher, trying to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ as it is set forth by God in the Scriptures, believing that the Scriptures are the final authority for man and the church—and not man's philosophy to accommodate the Scriptures to fit his Communistic and Socialistic ideals.

Your reading of the booklet and your commentary on the same would be appreciated. I will respect you and your judgment if you deem best not to express yourself concerning its charges.

RECORDED-59  
INDEXED-59  
Sincerely yours,

110-50869-287

SEP 21 1956

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/clm/uf

100-50869

*W. J. ...*

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (JOHN 14:6)

10  
EXP. PROC. 15  
SEP 4 1956

ENCLOSURE  
159

5-40

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/2/83 BY SP4/abj/ptk

ENCLOSURE

100-50869-287

b7c



# *What Is Wrong*

with the

## **FEDERAL COUNCIL?**

now known as the

**National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the U. S. A.**



Revised 1950 Edition

|| "I confess to a real apprehension so long as  
Communists are able to secure ministers of  
the gospel to promote their evil work."

J. Edgar Hoover

By

**W. O. H. GARMAN**  
President (1947-50)

**American Council of Christian Churches**  
15 Park Row,  
New York 7, N. Y.

Literature Item No. 100. For additional copies use this number.

100-51832-1000

September 12, 1956

RECORDED-59

INDEXED-59

100-50869-287

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated September 3, 1956, and enclosure have been received and the interest which prompted your communication is appreciated.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, I must advise that my official position precludes me from rendering opinions, guidance or suggestions to you. I am certain that upon reflection you will understand the wisdom and necessity of such a policy.

You may be interested in the fact that the statement attributed to me on the cover of your enclosure is an excerpt from a statement I made on March 26, 1947, before the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives.

I am enclosing a copy of this statement for what interest it may be to you. The excerpt quoted appears on Page 12 and I know you will realize when you read this passage in context that I was not making reference to any particular organization or religious denomination.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECEIVED  
FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
SEP 12 11 45 AM '56

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/2/93 BY [signature]

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mason \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Correspondent on mailing list for Uniform Crime Reports (33-1-24-444). He enclosed pamphlet by WBCB [unclear] 2011  
63 SEP 26 1956  
(Note continued on page 2)

100-50869  
SEP 15 2 31 PM '56  
EX-116

26 15  
2 DEPT OF JUSTICE  
FBI  
SEP 11 5 35 PM '56

b7C  
Letter to 

Note on yellow continued from page 1:

regarding National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA (NCCC). Pamphlet attempts to connote communist infiltration and domination to NCCC and quotes statement of Director which is accurate although incomplete and is taken from Director's statement before Committee on Un-American Activities (CUAA). Page 3 of pamphlet states because of certain activities by NCCC, there is talk of FBI and CUAA making public investigation.

Previous cordial correspondence with Garman who has been most complimentary of Director and FBI. (100-50869)

Numerous inquiries have been received regarding NCCC and individuals affiliated with the group which has been severely criticized by individual church groups and inquiry confined to contacts with informants of the New York Office in 1950 disclosed no evidence of subversive activities on part of the individuals affiliated with the organization. (100-50869)

Correspondent requests Director's commentary regarding pamphlet. Enclosure is statement by Director before Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, March 26, 1947, Washington, D.C.



b7c  
[REDACTED]  
Oct. 19 - 1956

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.

Washington, D. C.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Dear Sir: - I am writing you in regard to the National Council of Churches are they Communists? I have heard different men say that should know to have nothing to do with the organization because they were communistic. I took my stand against them & would not work with them. Do you have any printed matter on this subject I want nothing to do with Communists. Please send me literature on this

100-50219

RECORDED - 44

NOV 2 1956

Thank you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/2/83 BY SP4/epf/bv

[REDACTED]

November 1, 1956

100-50869-288

RECORDED - 44  
INDEXED - 44

b7c

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter postmarked October 24, 1956, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency and does not make evaluations or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual.

I know that you will understand the reasons for these rules and will not infer from my inability to be of assistance either that we do or that we do not have the information you desire.

There is enclosed, however, some information relating to the subject of communism which I hope you will find of value.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures (3)

The Communists are after our Minds  
Struggle on a New Plane  
Communist 'New Look'

FJH:age  
(3)

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- to \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 7 1956

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

DATE: January 2, 1957 ✓

FROM : L. B. Nichols *LBN*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
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- Nease \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_ ✓

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Russell Maguire, the Publisher of "American Mercury" magazine, while recently in the Bureau, gave me the attached copy of an editorial he has written for his own signature to appear in the March, 1957, issue of "American Mercury" wherein he takes the National Council of Churches to task. He was handed the attached pamphlet written by Dr. Billy James Hargis of Tulsa, Oklahoma, who indicts the National Council of Churches on "50 Counts of Treason to God and Country."

Enclosures

LBN:sak *LBN*  
(2)

*Handwritten notes:*  
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 K. J. ...  
 D. T. Hargis ...  
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100-50869-289

ENCLOSURE

## IN THE MERCURY'S OPINION

by RUSSELL MAGUIRE

for March

Non-radical American churchmen will be aghast at the proposal which the Divisions of Home Missions and Christian Life and Work of the National Council of Churches have just made.

The Divisions will propose to the General Board of the Council that it send a goodwill delegation of prominent American Protestant leaders to Communist China to establish relations with the "Christian churchmen in Red China". American clergymen actually propose to drive a breach into our nation's boycott of Red China - a boycott which has been official American policy ever since the murderous attack of the Red Chinese on our American troops at the Yalu River in November, 1950.

What, precisely, does this proposal mean?

First of all, there are no "Christian churchmen in Red China", whom the delegation could visit. The only Chinese who today publicly call themselves Christian, in Red China, are masquerading Communists who have been planted in the former churches to take them over, and convert them into Communist government agencies. The actual Christians, who are still in China, are either in prison, in the forced work camps, or else they are cowering in fear and terror.

We wonder if the National Council group, which is spearheaded by Dr. John A. Mackay, President of Princeton Theological Seminary, has ever heard of the so-called "Christian Manifesto" which every clergyman in China was forced to sign in 1950 under penalty of expulsion from his pulpit.

Listen to Dr. Hollington K. Tong, Ambassador to the United States from the Republic of China.

"Signing the Manifesto was obligatory for all Christians if they wished to avoid public accusation as supporters of Western "Imperialism". This Manifesto followed a virulent campaign of the Communists against Christian churches which were affiliated or connected with any foreign body".

The so-called "Christians" with whom Dr. Mackay's delegation proposes to hobnob are the former churchmen who have originally signed this "Manifesto" and

In The Mercury's Opinion - March

who have accepted the role of secret police for Communism to search out and expose to public trial the true Christians of China.

Dr. Teng continues: "I am afraid that at least 50% of the Christians on the mainland have been driven underground by Communist persecution. They do not openly attend services. Communists keep a close tally on church attendance and those on the Christian list are subjected to stern discrimination".

What is the purpose of Dr. Mackay's proposed delegation?

Since they will be unable to contact the true Christian underground, it is a fair presumption that they propose to fraternize, as fellow-churchmen, with the Red agents who are now operating the former churches as political institutions. Dr. Mackay and his companions will dignify these ignoble Peking sell-outs by clasping hands with them as fellow-Christians. In doing so they will dishonor the heroic fight which is being made from the underground by the 50% of the Chinese Christian clergy who refused to sign the "Manifesto".

It is difficult to conceive of anything more shameful to the god name of American Protestantism.

It is important to note that Dr. Mackay himself is an old hand at urging friendly American gestures to Red China. On August 4, 1950 at Northfield, Minn., he vehemently urged American recognition of Red China in an address before an audience of Lutheran missionaries. At that time, Chinese Communist volunteers were already killing American boys in Korea.

Dr. Mackay is entitled to his off-centre opinions about Red China. But when he endeavors to mobilize a church body which purports to speak for the 74,000,000 American Protestants, behind his schemings, that is another matter.

American Christians don't want friendship with the denouncers and murderers of the true Christians of China. It will be a black blot on the name of Protestantism if a little chosen group in the National Council succeeds in making this un-American and un-Christian gesture in favor of Chinese Communism.

**the  
National  
Council  
of  
Churches**

**INDICTS  
ITSELF ON**

**50 COUNTS  
of TREASON  
to  
God and Country!**



by  
Billy James Hargis, D.D.  
P. O. Box 977, Tulsa, Okla.

**\$1.00**

### **About The Author . . . .**

Billy James Hargis, D. D., president and founder of CHRISTIAN CRUSADE, is fast becoming recognized as America's most fearless leader in a militant, all-out fight against Apostasy and Communism in our Churches and in Government.

Leaving a comfortable and prospering pastorate to organize this Crusade, Dr. Hargis was inspired by the vision of a mighty movement which would not be limited to one group, but would awaken God's people everywhere. It is to this purpose that he has dedicated his life.



68-1069-589



## TREASON

"The betrayal of a trust or confidence; breach of faith; treachery; violation by a subject of his allegiance to his sovereign or to the state . . ."

*The New Century Dictionary.*

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES INDICTS THEMSELVES ON 50 COUNTS OF TREASON TO GOD AND COUNTRY

By BILLY JAMES HARGIS, D. D.

"For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets . . . if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect"—Matthew 24:24.

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ, and no marvel: for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light"—II Corinthians 11:13, 14.

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is anti-christ that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father"—I John 2:22, 23.

The National and World Council of Churches came into existence through a series of events that began in 1907. Dr. Harry F. Ward, who for twenty years was professor of Christian Ethics in Union Theological Seminary, led in the organization of a group of socialist clergymen into a movement called "The Methodist Federation for Social Service" in 1907. Page 2084 of the Congressional document, "Investigation of Communist Activities in the New York City Area," dated July 7, 1953, has this to say about this organization: "The Methodist Federation for Social Service was organized by a group of socialist-Marxist clergymen of the Methodist Church, headed by Dr. Harry F. Ward, twelve years before the organization of the Communist Party in the United States in 1919." This was the first united effort to organize the clergy of America, and to get them committed in a scheme for socialist reform. To show the thinking of Dr. Ward, in a radio broadcast, May 21, 1946, he stated: "The Soviet Union is progressing and growing up economically and politically since the time of the Czars, while capitalist society is starving, and going down." As established, the Methodist Federation for Social Service provided the leaders for the establishment of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America in 1908.

In a Constituting Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, November 28-December 1, 1950, the said convention of churches "went underground" by merging with a dozen other interdenominational agents under the name of National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States.

In 1948 at Amsterdam, The Netherlands, the Federal Council of Churches further broadened its activities by establishing the World Council of Churches, which is dominated by the American leaders of the National Council of Churches. Although the Federal Council now operates under the name of National Council and World Council of Churches, its program, aspirations and leadership are unchanged.

One of America's most brilliant anti-communists, J. B. Matthews, states: "Communists have been successful in enlisting several thousand Protestant clergymen in support of their objectives . . . the Kremlin has done its work well."

Herbert Philbrick, author of "I Led Three Lives," for nine years an undercover agent for the F. B. I., said: "We are losing the fight with Communism . . . there are more names of ministers than any other profession on the list of Communist supporters in this country . . . Protest this to your religious leaders . . . if their name is on the list, demand that they withdraw from it or kick them out of your church organization . . ." These straight-forward words are from Mr. Philbrick's speech before the Daughters of American Revolution, April 18, 1956.

Paul said: "Expose them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple" (Romans 16:17, 18). In obedience to this Divine Command to expose the enemies of the historic Christian faith, I now indict the National and World Council of Churches on 50 counts:

#### ARTICLE 1

### NATIONAL COUNCIL LEADERSHIP BRANDED PRO-COMMUNIST BY GOVERNMENT AGENCY IN 1935

United States Naval Intelligence in 1935 reported that the Federal Council of Churches was subversive and was one of the strongest of the organizations "which while not openly advocating the 'force and violence' principles of the Communist party give aid and comfort to the Communist movement and party . . . It is a large radical pacifist organization and probably represents 20,000,000 Protestants in the United States. However, its leadership consists of a small radical group which dictates its policies. It is always extremely active in any matters against national defense."

Since that time the activities and policies of the Federal Council have not improved one whit.

#### ARTICLE 2

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES SPONSORS AMERICAN TOUR OF COMMUNIST CLERGYMEN

The National Council of Churches brought Metropolitan Nicolai of Moscow, Russia, to the United States, June 2, 1956, to speak in selected churches under the auspices of the National Council of Churches.

The record of Metropolitan Nicolai:

- In charge of Foreign Relations of the Russian Orthodox Church
- Member of Presidium of the Communist World Peace Council
- Leader in charging germ warfare and U. S. aggression in Korea
- Awarded Soviet Union's Red Flag Order of Work
- Led Communist "World Peace Congress" in Stockholm, Sweden, April 7-10, 1956.

The Metropolitan, speaking against the United States, said: "The ideas of hatred of humanity are inoculated in children and young people on a big scale in the U. S. A. . . . It is thus that the American kindlers of war try to raise murderers from their tender years. Thus the enemies of peace desire to corrupt the minds of people and force them to be submissive participants in unheard-of evil deeds against humanity." "Hitler and his servants might well have envied General MacArthur and his fellow-champions in the Korean aggression." "Apparently, the bestial aspect of imperialism can change only in one direction—become still more ferocious, dreadful, merciless."

#### ARTICLE 3

### LAJOS VETO, LEADER OF WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, IS RED LEADER BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

Lajos Veto, member of the Central Committee of the World Council, is the publisher of the Communist Hungarian Church Press, director of the Lutheran Church, a member of the Communist party and a member of the Communist Parliament of Hungary.

ARTICLE 4

**ALBERT BERECKZY, ANOTHER LEADER OF THE WORLD  
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, IS MOSCOW-PICKED  
COMMUNIST STOOGES**

Albert Bereckzy, chairman of the Ecumenical Council of Hungary, was a Communist leader in the underground and was chairman of the committee which received the World Council's Central Committee in Budapest, July 28-August 5, 1956. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the liberation of Budapest, Bereckzy said: "A rich, abundant, flourishing, powerful new life surrounds us, and we decided, as a Church, to regard this new, pulsating, hopeful life as the gift of God's grace which we modestly and humbly try to promote with our helpful ministrations."

ARTICLE 5

**JOSEF HROMADKA IS COMMUNIST SPOKESMAN  
IN THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

Josef Hromadka, the No. 1 Defender of Communism, is a spokesman for the Red world in the World Council of Churches. As a member of an official delegation to Moscow, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Revolution, he declared: "There exists a much purer, more genuine, healthier, and uncorrupted atmosphere than in the West."

In July, 1953, he received the first Czechoslovak Communist Peace Award from the hands of the president. While in the United States in 1954, he confessed that he had been a member of the Communist Party. While in Australia in 1956 he said: "I believe it is possible to be both a Communist and a Christian."

ARTICLE 6

**WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES HAS LEADERS WHO ARE  
PLEGDED TO THE COMMUNIST REGIME  
IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

The government subsidizes the churches and pays the salaries of its clergy who mouth the Communist line as the Gospel. Hromadka took this oath: "I promise on my honor and conscience to be faithful to the Czechoslovak Republic and to its people's democratic order, and I shall not undertake anything contrary to its interests, security and integrity. As a citizen of the people's democratic State, I shall conscientiously perform the duties inherent in my office and I shall do anything within my ability to support the efforts at (social) reconstruction for the welfare of the people."

ARTICLE 7

**COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER IS OFFICER IN WORLD  
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

Jon Chabada, a leader in the Communist Party in Czechoslovakia, is the Bishop of the Lutheran Church and is now a member of the Central Committee of the World Council. A bishop who was never elected, he was appointed to his position by the Communists.

ARTICLE 8

**COMMUNIST CHURCHES IN POLAND HEADED BY  
WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OFFICERS**

The Lutheran Church is headed by the Communist-appointed Bishop Kotula, a member of the World Council's Central Committee. He has directed the activities of the Church in complete submission to the party line.

These communists have infiltrated the church and operate with the approval of Western church leaders. They . . . promote propaganda for co-existence between the East and West, testify to Marxism as a substitution for the Gospel, propagandize for the party line in foreign affairs, influence the decisions and resolutions adopted, which frequently present party line propaganda, and are handed down through the inner channels of the Western churches and published in their church literature as the voice of the church.

ARTICLE 9

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PROMOTES SOCIALISM  
WHICH IS CONTRARY TO OUR HISTORIC WAY OF LIFE**

In many official pronouncements, the Federal Council has attacked free enterprise, capitalism and the American way of life, and has boldly advocated Socialism.

In an official report in 1932, the Federal Council stated: "The Christian ideal calls for hearty support of a planned economic system . . . It demands that cooperation shall replace competition as a fundamental method."

At a full meeting in Indianapolis in December, 1932, the Federal Council adopted unanimously this Socialist creed: "The Churches should stand for social planning and control of the credit and monetary systems and the economic processes."

The following year, 1933, the Council officially declared: "The Christian conscience can be satisfied with nothing less than the complete substitution of motives of mutual helpfulness and good will for the motive of private gain."

The Federal Council has not changed since then. This anti-free enterprise, anti-profit attitude is still its fundamental policy. In Cleveland in January, 1945, they again attacked the right of private property as an absolute freedom, and further stated: "Many changes may be necessary in our economic practices. These changes will probably lie in the direction of a larger measure of social planning and control than characterized our pre-war system."

In 1948, at Amsterdam, the World Council of Churches, which is dominated by the Federal Council and was attended by most of its leading lights, adopted this resolution: "The Christian Churches should reject the ideologies of both Communism and laissez-faire Capitalism." (Note: The resolution which was first adopted did not have the words "laissez-faire." These were added next day to "tone down" the resolution after unfavorable repercussions began to pour in.)

These are just a few illustrations which prove that the Federal Council believes in, preaches and advocates Socialism, and is completely opposed to the American (and Christian) system of Individual Freedom.

ARTICLE 10

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LEADER  
PRAISES SOVIET REVOLUTION**

"Is it not probable that the greatest event of the 20th century thus far is the Soviet Revolution and all it has meant to human welfare?" (Prof. Jerome Davis, long time member of the Federal Council inner circle.)

ARTICLE 11

**GENERAL SECRETARY OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
ATTACKS AMERICAN PRIVATE ENTERPRISE**

"The principle of competition seems to be nothing more than a partly conventionalized embodiment of primeval selfishness." (Samuel McCrea Calvert, general secretary of National Council, in an official council publication.)

ARTICLE 12

**FAMED NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES EVANGELIST  
SAYS COMMUNISM PRODUCED BY GOD**

"When the Western World was floundering in an unjust and competitive order . . . God reached out and put His hand on the Russian Communists to produce a juster order and to show a recumbent Church what it has missed in its own gospel." (E. Stanley Jones, Federal Council-sponsored preacher and speaker.)

ARTICLE 13

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LEADER  
REPUDIATES CHRISTIAN RELIGION**

"The Christian religion is not a suitable religion for today." (Edward C. Lindeman, Federal Council Commission on research, and editor, 1939 and 1940.)

ARTICLE 14

**FRIEND OF NATIONAL COUNCIL LEADERSHIP SAYS  
THAT MARY WAS A HARLOT AND JESUS'  
FATHER WAS A GERMAN SOLDIER**

Nels F. S. Ferre is Professor of Philosophical Theology at Vanderbilt University School of Religion. He is in much demand as a speaker in churches and denominational schools. He has lectured at the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville. He has been scheduled to speak for youth groups in the Southern Baptist Convention. He is highly recommended by practically every high official in both the National and World Council of Churches. The following vicious and blasphemous attack upon the Lord Jesus Christ is taken from Ferre's Book, "The Christian Understanding of God," published by Harper & Brothers. Page 191, "Strange, however, is the hold which this doctrine (the Virgin Birth) in its more literal form has on countless people. Reference to the Virgin Birth is not found in Paul's letters, the earliest writings we have. It is not found in Mark, the original gospel. It is not found in the various epistles of the New Testament. It is not found in the Johannine

tradition. As a matter of fact, the reference in John to the claim by the Jews to the effect that they were not born in adultery, could give external credence to a Nazi claim that Jesus was German.

"Mary, we remember, was found pregnant before her engagement to mild Joseph. Nazareth was hard by a Roman garrison where the soldiers were German mercenaries. Jesus is also reported throughout a continuous part of the history of art, it is claimed, to have been blond.

"This supposedly is unnatural for the Mediterranean countries where this same tradition started and was continued. Hence Jesus must have been the child of a German soldier.

"After all, the claim develops, such is the experience of many girls near military camps. His great genius, spiritual agony, and serene victory would thus be accounted for, as far as the unusual conditions go which gave Him the chance to respond in an exceptional manner in the fullness of time.

"Such an interpretation has been made of His life, AND WHO CAN DENY THAT SUCH A CONJECTURE COULD BE TRUE?"

ARTICLE 15

**DARLING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ATTACKS  
EVERYTHING HELD SACRED BY CHRISTIANS**

Ferre has written another book, "The Sun and the Umbrella." A review of this book appeared in the "Sword of the Lord," edited by Dr. John R. Rice of Wheaton, Illinois, and from which the following extracts are taken:

**Bible.** "The Christian Church has no significant future till it puts away traditionalistic orthodoxy" . . . (p. 87). This kind of theology "has to be challenged, fought and slain." (p. 79).

**The Person of Christ.** "He is at best a vague figure" and has been mythologized. (p. 115). "Jesus never was nor became God" (p. 112). He was not pre-existent, Ferre says. "Such is the nature of the grand myth which at its heart is idolatry." (p. 83).

**The Resurrection.** "It seems appropriate that He (Jesus) . . . was allowed to return to earthly life . . . to encourage His followers . . . But we know neither that this event actually happened nor exactly what took place" (p. 115, 116).

**As to the Second Coming.** "It seems doubtful Jesus ever taught such a doctrine" (p. 33).

**The Bible.** "The use of the Bible as the final authority for Christian truth is idolatry" (p. 39).

**Church.** There can also be "the Hindu branch of the Church of the Living God" (p. 122). "Hinduism is good and wise" (p. 117). "What a spiritual people this religion has produced!" (p. 119).

**For Communists Ferre has an approach.** "They are too sharply aware of the imperfect parts of the Bible and too honest with the truth" (p. 129). "We shall witness to the Communists because whatever truth is theirs we accept wholeheartedly, and beyond their truth lies God's truth" (p. 156).

#### ARTICLE 16

### THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PUBLISHED A NEW BIBLE WHICH ELIMINATES REFERENCE TO THE VIRGIN BIRTH OF CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

The prophecy of the virgin birth of Christ is eliminated from the Old Testament. Isaiah 7:14, the beloved passage used particularly at Christmas time, has been changed. The word "virgin" in reference to the coming Messiah has been removed, and the words "a young woman" have been substituted. Yet, Matthew 1:22 specifically declares that this prophecy was given by the Lord, "spoken of the Lord by the prophet," and had been fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ of the virgin Mary.

The King James Version of Isaiah 7:14 reads: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel."

The new National Council Bible reads: "Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

#### ARTICLE 17

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES COPYRIGHTS THE WORD OF GOD, WHICH IS UNHEARD OF IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

The copyrighting of this Bible by the National Council of Churches makes it the National Council Bible.

It is explained in the preface that this copyright is made in order to prevent the corrupting of the text, but this copyright gives the NCC exclusive control over the use to which the book shall be put, and no publisher may be permitted in any extended manner to quote or use this book without the permission of the NCC. The King James Version is not copyrighted by anyone and it has not been corrupted. The National Council of Churches in holding the copyright also receives the financial royalties from the sale of the book. This represents definite commercializing of the Bible by the NCC and making merchandise of the Scriptures for their own pecuniary profit.

#### ARTICLE 18

### TRANSLATORS OF NATIONAL COUNCIL BIBLE HAVE COMMUNIST-FRONT RECORDS

Who are the men who translated this Bible? The committee is headed by Dr. Luther A. Weigle, former head of Yale University Divinity School, an outspoken modernist, and former Federal Council president.

Dr. Weigle has been affiliated with the Co-ordinating Committee to Lift the (Spanish) Embargo, cited by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities as one of a number of front organizations set up by the Communist Party during the Spanish Civil War. He was also affiliated with the North American Committee to aid Spanish Democracy, cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities; and affiliated with the National Religion and Labor Foundation set up by radicals in 1932 to propagandize "the new social order."

He was a signer of the "World Tomorrow" Poll and voted in favor of socialism, a drastic increase in inheritance and income taxes, and for a co-operative commonwealth instead of capitalism.

The committee actually included in its membership a Jew, Harry M. Orlinsky, of the Jewish Institute of Religion, New York. A Jew does not accept the deity of Christ, but is unitarian in belief, and this helps to explain the unitarian emphasis dealing with the passages referring to the Messiah.

Walter Russell Bowie, of Union Theological Seminary, worked on the New Testament. He is well known as a radical, and has been a member of a number of Communist front organizations. Dr. Bowie was related to the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, cited as subversive and Communist by Attorney General Tom Clark. This committee is said to be one of the oldest auxiliaries of the Communist Party in the United States by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities. He was a member of the Civil Rights Congress, listed as subversive and Communist by Attorney General Tom Clark. All together he has been named on 15 Communist or Communist-front organizations.

It should be observed that four of them are of Union Theological Seminary, New York City, hotbed of modernism and socialism; three of Yale Divinity School, a center of socialism and modernism.

#### ARTICLE 19

### BRITISH LEADER OF WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PRAISES RUSSIA

An Associated Press dispatch from Sheffield, England, reports Dr. Donald Soper, head of the Methodist Churches of Great Britain, as praising the leaders of Soviet Russia. Dr. Soper, a Socialist and known pacifist, accepted an invitation of the Russian Orthodox Catholic Church to visit Soviet Russia. Upon return, he addressed a mass meeting in England, at which time he declared that Russia is no better and no worse than Americans, and added that every Christian should be a leftwinger. Dr. Soper, the head of the Methodist denomination of England, thus identifies himself with World Communism.

#### ARTICLE 20

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LEADERS REJECT SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Many American preachers, affiliated with the National Council and World Council of Churches, do not accept the evangelical doctrine of the second coming of Christ. They don't believe He is coming back to bring in His kingdom, so they have commenced to set up the kingdom without the King. Some of these men, like Ferre, Oxnam and E. Stanley Jones, believe the Kingdom can be quickly realized through a socialist revolution.

The headlines of the Chicago Tribune for August 26, 1954, when the World Council of Churches was meeting in a Chicago suburb, were: "World Council Churches splits over Christ's Coming Again." It seems that some of the European preachers attending the World Council fiasco, actually believed in the fundamental doctrine of the second coming of Christ. But, the American preachers did not accept the evangelical truth of the second coming. The American preachers believed the Kingdom of God would come in after some sort of a socialistic revolution.

## ARTICLE 21

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES SEEKS TO MONOPOLIZE RADIO AND TELEVISION

March 7, 1956, the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches adopted a resolution advising "against the sale or purchase of time for religious broadcasts." It holds this practice to be inconsistent with its own basis of operation . . . The commission, therefore, calls upon its constituents to exercise their influence to support this policy by discouraging this practice.

There is nothing new in this resolution. It has long been the practice of the National Council and its predecessor, the Federal Council, falsely claiming to be the spokesmen for Protestantism in America, to seek to establish a monopoly on religious broadcasting in the United States.

The National Council has met with much success in obtaining from the major radio and television networks free time to present their own modernistic spokesmen, but they are not satisfied. To make their monopoly complete, they would deny the right of any minister, church or organization to purchase time, at commercial rates, to present the gospel.

The theory is that, while it is acceptable for beer, liquor and tobacco interests to purchase time in which to demoralize our people, it should be impossible to buy time to preach the gospel of the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

When our Lord was on this earth, it was the religious leaders who denied Him, and who sent Him to the cross. Likewise, today, it is many of our most prominent "religious" leaders—MIS-LEADERS—who are standing in the way of the gospel.

## ARTICLE 22

### COMMUNIST LEADERS CLAIM CREDIT FOR WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PROGRAM

Religious News Service recently carried this news story from East Germany, which was a report made by Communist clergymen at a convention behind the Iron Curtain: "An attempt to link decisions of the World Council of Churches Second Assembly at Evanston, Illinois, last August with the Communist "peace front" were made at a conference of "progressive" churchmen held in Leipzig, East Germany. The Conference issued an appeal to Christians and church groups in both East and West Germany to make "resolutions against rearmament adopted by the Evanston Assembly the basis of peace discussions at parish and synod levels." Dr. Josef Hromadka of Prague, prominent Czech theologian, and a delegate to the Evanston Assembly, was reported . . . as having lauded the World Council at the Leipzig meeting for "condemning all crusades against the East propagated in the West by irresponsible war-mongers."

Thus, our American denominations that financed the World Council meeting in Evanston, should feel right proud of themselves. The Communists are telling the world that the World Council has officially adopted the Communist plan for world peace, and publicly slapped the Americans, who the Communists accuse of being "irresponsible war-mongers."

## ARTICLE 23

### WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PLANS WORLD CHURCH

Dr. Liston Pope, dean of the Yale Divinity School, said in New Haven, Connecticut, that the time "is coming when the split between the Roman Catholic and Protestant branches of Christendom will have to be re-examined boldly and honestly." Dr. Pope, who along with the Czech Communist, Hromadka, is a member of the Central and Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches, advocated a union of all Protestant and Catholic Churches into one body. He said: "Unity in the churches can help bring enduring peace on earth among nations." He added, "that the feeling of unity among all the churches (in both the communist and free states) is growing rapidly now, and already is a powerful force in a divided world." Dr. Pope, one of America's best known trainers of ministerial students, furthermore declared that the division between the Catholics and Protestants is a "sin and . . . the Christian faith requires strong efforts toward unity."

Thus we see the handwriting on the wall. The World Church is not far away. Already there are efforts being made by the World Council of Churches to unite all religions into one church.

## ARTICLE 24

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES EVANGELIST ASPIRES A WORLD CHURCH

One of America's most famous preachers, Dr. E. Stanley Jones of the Methodist Church, world famous missionary, author and lecturer, spoke last January before the January assembly of the Council of Churches of Greater Houston. In this address Dr. Jones said: "Plans are under way for the formation of a federal union of American churches. A nation-wide gathering of denominational leaders is planned for 1956 and a year later a constitutional convention, in which the union of churches would actually be brought into existence."

## ARTICLE 25

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ATTACKS ANTI-COMMUNISTS

The National Council of Churches had a convention in 1954 in Boston. One of the speakers at the National Council Convention was Roland H. Bainton, who trains ministerial students at Yale University. He told the convention of clergymen that the United States has a greater enemy in the anti-communists, than in the communists themselves. In other words, the National Council of Churches does not consider Communism an enemy of America; instead, they consider those of us fighting Communism, an enemy of America. His speech was greeted by a standing ovation from the clergymen attending the convention.

## ARTICLE 26

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LEADERS SUPPORT ENTRANCE OF RED CHINA INTO UNITED NATIONS

Dr. John A. MacKay, recent moderator of the General Assembly of the

Presbyterian Church, has gone on record as approving the recognition of the Communists of China in the U. N. Chambers. Speaking before a group of 200 Protestant leaders, January 16, 1950, in New York City on his return from Bangkok, Dr. John A. MacKay, President of Princeton Theological Seminary, one of the largest preacher-training schools in America today, and former head of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., said: "No matter what we think of the social and political aspects of Communism, the government now in control of China deserves our recognition," and then he added: "The Russians saw Christianity at its worst. While in China, Christianity—as exemplified by the missionary movement—is seen at its best. Many of the Chinese Communists have been educated and trained in our Christian schools and universities."

So, again we see the handwriting on the wall. The Churchmen of America will now campaign for the recognition of Red China, the betrayal of Chiang Kai-Shek and the furtherance of Communist aggression throughout the world, under the cloak of respectability.

#### ARTICLE 27

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AFFILIATE PUBLISHED AND ENDORSED A PACIFIST BOOK TO BE USED AS MATERIAL FOR SERMONS

The head of the Methodist denomination, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, has written the introduction to a new book called "PLOWSHARES AND PRUNING HOOKS," a ninety-four page book, published by the Crusade for World Order led by the Council of Bishops of the Methodist Church. The book contains three articles: "The Meaning of Peace" by Sockman. "The United Nations" by Dr. O. Frederick Nolde, one of the officers of the World Council of Churches; and "Disarmament" by Walter W. VanKirk, an officer of the National Council of Churches. According to the book, every Methodist minister in the United States has been instructed to preach these three sermons, which mouth the socialist, pacifist line.

#### ARTICLE 28

### LEADERS OF WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PRAISE THE GODLESS U. N.

In the above mentioned book, Dr. Walter VanKirk said: "There is under way in this country a movement to get the United States out of the United Nations and the United Nations out of the United States. Powerful voices have been raised in the Senate of the United States to the effect that if actions are taken in the United Nations that are not to their liking, a campaign will be initiated to encourage American withdrawal from the world organization. McCarthyism engenders its own peculiar form of isolationism. Unless Christians, among others, are able to successfully counter this trend toward going it alone, the United Nations will die. And if the United Nations dies, there will die with it the opportunity to bring armaments and armed forces under international control." This is propaganda for world government.

#### ARTICLE 29

### NATIONAL COUNCIL LEADER ADVOCATES WORLD GOVERNMENT

This same Walter W. VanKirk, who in this Methodist publication attacks those of us advocating that America should immediately withdraw from the United Nations, is the same preacher that has gone all over America preaching World Government. On February 4, 1953, Dr. VanKirk delivered an address at the University of Southern California in which he said: "The surest way ultimately to achieve some form of world government is through the United Nations. A super-world endowed with constitutional authority and with sufficient police force to impose its judgments on sovereign nation states may come some day." Here is a man, an executive officer of the National Council of Churches in the United States, preaching world government, and his ideas are published for every preacher in America's largest denomination, the Methodist Church, by the Church itself. Every God-loving Methodist in America is helping to support the publication of this propaganda for world government, by supporting the denominational apparatus.

#### ARTICLE 30

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES DENOMINATION SAYS BIBLE IS FABLE

Even a cursory survey of the teaching materials of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., in the new Curriculum for the Sunday School reveals a tragic story of apostasy and shameless unbelief. One example among many concerns a text written by Hulda Niebuhr, "The One Story," intended for teen-agers, and purporting to cover the whole Bible in rapid review; only the tale is shot through with the most subtle and destructive criticism of the Bible, and with propaganda slanted to promote the socialistic aims of the National and World Councils of Churches.

The Prologue advises that "through the many pages of the Bible runs one great story," a story made up of many stories, "history, biography, parable, legend, even a fable or two." On page 47, the legends are ascribed to the stories about Elijah: "In the later years many legends were told about Elijah, and the people always expected that he would come again to hold them to their course as the Lord's own people." Since the Lord Jesus Christ Himself declared that Elijah would indeed return (Matt. 17:11), He, too, bears the stigma of the perpetrator of fictitious tales.

#### ARTICLE 31

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES FRIEND SAYS BIBLE IS VANISHING BOOK

Prof. J. B. Pratt of Williams daringly charges, "The Bible has lost all hold on the leaders of thought and certainly is destined before many years to become one of the curiosities of the past. The inspiration of those who spake a "Thus saith the Lord" is of only a little higher type than that of the whirling dervishes and heathen medicine men."

#### ARTICLE 32

### TRANSLATOR OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES BIBLE REPUDIATES INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

Frederick C. Eiselen, a Revised Standard Version translator, wrote: "Modern investigators . . . have marshalled too many facts to permit any longer the use of the Bible as an infallible guide in matters of service and history . . . The writers did the best of which they were capable under the intellectual limitations of the age in which they lived . . . (And) in matters of faith and conduct . . . the student soon discovers difficulties."

#### ARTICLE 33

### PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ATTACKS BIBLE

Methodist Bishops G. Bromley Oxnam and William C. Martin (also the present President of the National-Federal Council), writing in a special Methodist booklet "reviewed by a Committee of The Council of Bishops," declared about the "verbal inspiration theory," "this is far from doing justice to our faith concerning the Bible or to the way the Bible itself shows us how God revealed Himself to man."

Dr. McGiffert announced: "We have learned, not to think of the Bible as the final and infallible authority and have come to see that there is no such authority and that we need none."

#### ARTICLE 34

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES EVANGELISTS SAY COMMUNISM IS LIKE CHRISTIANITY

E. Stanley Jones in his estimate of communism in the closing chapter of "The Choice Before Us," argues: "Nevertheless, Communism is essentially closer in spirit to Christianity than is Fascism, for it stands for principles that are interracial and international and bases life upon the essential worth of every man and would give every man equal opportunity." (p. 212).

#### ARTICLE 35

### NATIONAL AND WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES FINANCE COMMUNISTS

The Communists have arranged that the churches of the West pay for their activities in the World Council. According to the Financial Report of the World Council of Churches for 1952-53, and 1953-54, the churches in Iron Curtain countries which belong to the World Council have contributed nothing. In Hungary, the Reformed Church and the Lutheran Church are listed in the statistical report as contributing nothing. In Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania and Yugoslavia, the same is true. In the report of the finances for the Third World Congress on Faith and Order, held in Lund, Sweden, August 15-29, 1952, the largest item is entitled, "Travel expenses, lodging, etc., for: Delegates," and this includes the delegates from the Iron Curtain countries.

Bishop Peter from Hungary also went to the meeting of the Central Committee in India, in January of 1953. Of the \$306,316.14 contributed to the World Council in 1952-53, \$240,000 came from the United States; approximately three-fourths has been American dollars. The churches, therefore, in the United States have made the major contribution for the expenses of the delegates from these Communist churches.

#### ARTICLE 36

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES MISSIONARY DETHRONES JESUS

Cecil G. Fielder, a missionary out under the American (Northern) Baptist Convention, stated: "Jesus definitely disclaimed any intention of placing Himself on a level with God the Father."

#### ARTICLE 37

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES SPONSORS "UNITED GOD'S MEETING"

Before the tenth anniversary celebration of the United Nations opened in San Francisco, the San Francisco Council of Churches organized a United Festival of Faith, which was held in the San Francisco Cow Palace.

Dr. C. Frederick Nolde, one of the officers of the World Council of Churches presided over this conglomerated religious affair. Even the Roman Catholics declined to cooperate. However, the Hindus, the Mohammedans, the Buddhists took their places, read from their sacred writings and then all simultaneously prayed to their own Gods. This festival of faith was held in conjunction with the tenth anniversary of the United Nations. The theme could well have been "United Gods!" The Secretary of State of the United States, John Foster Dulles, graced the occasion and delivered the address to the inter-religious conference. He quoted the scripture, "Not by might nor power, but by Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts." He said: "That sentiment is common to all our faiths. It can well guide us as we look to a future which contains greater hazard than any future men have ever faced, but which contains greater opportunity." For John Foster Dulles to quote that text from the Old Testament and say that it is common to all our faiths, the Hindu, the Buddhists, the Mohammedans, the Christian, reveals on his part a lack of understanding as to what these religions, are, and particularly a lack of understanding as to what his own professed faith is.

#### ARTICLE 38

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES YOUTH LEADER SAYS JESUS IS NOT GOD

Dr. Wesner Fallaw, speaking at the March 1944 annual meeting of the International Council of Religious Education (producers of the Revised Standard Version), is quoted as saying: "We want youth to view Jesus as God's principal revelation of his nature. Jesus is not God, nor another God; nor yet the only revelation we have of God . . . To my mind, one of the major faults with orthodoxy has always been the practice of confusing God with Jesus. We still have much to do in deleting from the prayers, hymns and certain textbooks used with children, evidences of Christ-worship."



ARTICLE 39

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PROFESSOR  
REPUDIATES CHRIST AS CREATOR**

Dr. Edwin Ewart Aubrey, president of Crozer Seminary, asking if Jesus "is really God," replied, "To this one can but say that He is not the Creator who made heaven and earth, nor is He all of God."

ARTICLE 40

**TRANSLATOR OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
BIBLE SAYS JESUS IS LIAR**

Henry J. Cadbury, one of the Revised Standard Version translators, politely called Christ a liar by saying: "He was given to overstatements . . ." Waxing still more boldly in another book, he declared: "A psychology of God, if that is what Jesus was, is not available." Later he wrote: "It is particularly dangerous to stress the terms of Jesus," and announce that God was "not in the foreground of Jesus' thinking, but in the background."

ARTICLE 41

**PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES SAYS  
"DEITY OF CHRIST" IS HEATHEN DOCUMENT**

Dr. Francis J. McConnell, former president of the National-Federal Council of Churches and Methodist Bishop of the New York area, wrote: "Is not this tendency to deify Jesus more heathen than Christian? Are we not most truly Christian when we cut loose from a heathen propensity and take Jesus simply for the character that He was and for the ideal that He is?"

ARTICLE 42

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES FRIEND  
SAYS JESUS MERE HUMAN**

Theology Professor Paul W. Schmiedel, writer of the article on Christ's resurrection in the Encyclopedia Biblica, wrote: "My religion does not require me to find in Jesus an absolutely perfect model, and it would not trouble me if I found another person who excelled Him, as indeed, in some respects, some have already done. Convinced as I am that He was human, if another should have more to offer me than He had, I should consider this simply another instance of God's bounty and favour."

ARTICLE 43

**PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES  
WONDERS IF THERE IS A GOD**

Dr. George A. Buttrick, another past president of the National-Federal Council, went so far as to wonder, "if God there be."

ARTICLE 44

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES COLLEGE PRESIDENT  
REPUDIATES VIRGIN BIRTH**

Dr. Albert W. Palmer, long president of the Chicago Theological Semi-

nary, wrote: "You may decide that the evidence for the virgin birth is so slender that it is imperative for you to think of Jesus as born like all the rest of us, of two human parents. Personally, I should welcome that conclusion . . ."

ARTICLE 45

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LEADER SAYS  
CHRIST NO MORE GOD THAN MOTHER**

Harry Emerson Fosdick, one of the world's best known modernist-infidels, has been unrelentless in his attacks upon Christ's deity. The author of a sermon called "The Peril of Worshipping Jesus," he wrote: "To say, therefore, that God was in Christ seems to me no theological puzzle at all. I think God was in my mother, the source of the loveliness that blessed us there!" In other words, Christ was no more God than was Mrs. Fosdick.

ARTICLE 46

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PROFESSOR SAYS  
CHRIST NOT FOR THIS AGE**

Dr. J. W. Nixon, theology professor at Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, wrote: "We shall not bandy words about the finality of Christ . . . The field is open for anyone at any time to mean more to men than Jesus has meant . . . He was the child of his people and his time."

ARTICLE 47

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES TO BLAME  
FOR PEARL HARBOR**

Prior to World War II, the National Council of Churches, then called the Federal Council of Churches, made every effort imaginable and humanly possible to undermine our traditional preparedness program and to disarm our American boys, fresh out of college. This fact is brought home in the dynamic new book, "The Untold Story of Douglas MacArthur" by Fraser Hunt. Hunt refers to an incident that happened in Washington, D. C., in the spring of 1931, after General MacArthur had been Chief of Staff for six months. The leaders of the Federal Council of Churches including Harry Emerson Fosdick, had circulated a questionnaire among 53,000 Protestant preachers, in which the clergymen were asked to sign a pledge that they would not bear arms to defend their country in event of war. It was this attitude on the part of the clergymen of America that kept the United States from arming properly. At Pearl Harbor, we were caught off guard at the Japanese sneak attack. There is no doubt in my mind that the pacifism of the Federal Council of Churches is directly responsible for the thousands of boys who were killed in the beginning days of World War II. Our country was not ready for war. We were caught off guard.

As Captain Edgar C. Bundy, formerly in United States Intelligence, now residing in Wheaton, Illinois, has said: "The Federal Council of Churches must bear a great share of the responsibility for the unpreparedness of the United States at the time of the Pearl Harbor attack, because of its consistent lobbying through its Washington office, against proposed defense measures."

ARTICLE 48

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES TO BLAME  
FOR RACE RIOTS IN THE SOUTH**

The agitation that brought about the Supreme Court's decision and the ensuing race riots in progress in the South, was brought about by pressure groups such as the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Senator Eastland said that the organizations supporting the war on segregation "run from the blood red of the Communist Party to the almost equally red of the National Council of Churches of Christ, in the U. S. A."

ARTICLE 49

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES TO BLAME FOR  
SOCIALIST TREND IN UNITED STATES TODAY**

An influential American, J. Howard Pew, Chairman of the Lay Committee and former President of the Sun Oil Company, wrote an open letter to the National Council of Churches on December 15, 1955, in which he charged the Protestant leaders have become too deeply involved in political adventures and other acts which could have been termed akin to socialism and Communism. Mr. Pew charged the National Council of Churches policies turned out to be substantially the same of those of its predecessor organization, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ of America, which was listed by the Naval Intelligence Service as a Communist front. He cited examples of the leftist policies of the National Council of Churches.

ARTICLE 50

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES HAS  
CORRUPTED THE CHURCH**

In the February, 1956, issue of Facts Forum, Admiral Ben Morrell, who for twenty-nine years served the United States Navy in a remarkable manner which merited him many honors including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit and who is accredited as being the Founder of the Seabees, has written an excellent article entitled "Of Bread and Circuses." In this article he says: "We urge people to go back to church; but there they frequently find that the very forces which have impaired our traditional beliefs have also affected the source of those beliefs, the church itself. The contemporary religious scene is in a state of confusion. Many of our prominent and articulate churchmen and some of our most influential church bodies have favored socialization of our national life and have urged that more power to be placed in the hands of the government."

It is indeed most discouraging that the American people do not realize these facts, that they have been misled by men who have posed as righteous and infallible spiritual leaders. The hope of the United States may well be a return to orthodoxy. We need a revival. People who are associated with the churches affiliated with the National and World Council of Churches should not hesitate to withdraw from those communions, and form independent orthodox churches in their communities. It is not disgraceful to be an independent testimony even in a home, in order to be true to the traditional theological doctrines of Protestantism and American principles.

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR THE FOREGOING ARTICLES:**

1. "How Red Is the Federal-National Council of Churches?" by Verne Kaub.
- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. "Christianity or Communism" by Carl McIntire.
- 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. "How Red is the Federal-National Council of Churches?" by Verne Kaub.
- 14 and 15. "The Blasphemies of Nels Ferre" by David Otis Fuller.
- 16, 17, and 18. "The New Bible" by Carl McIntire.
19. "The Chronology of A Super-Church" by Billy James Hargis.
20. "Religion at the Crossroads" by Billy James Hargis.
21. Militant Truth, May 1956.
- 22 and 23. "The Scarlet Woman of Revelation" by Billy James Hargis.
24. "Do We Really Want Church Unity?" by Billy James Hargis.
25. "Separation, Not Reform" by Billy James Hargis.
26. "Which Shall We Forfeit, U. N. or Formosa?" by Billy James Hargis.
- 27, 28, and 29. "A Sobering Analysis" by Billy James Hargis.
30. Christian Beacon, October 21, 1954.
- 31 and 32. "Christianity Today," pages 42, 43.
33. "Our Faith in the Bible," page 18.
34. "The Choice Before Us," page 212.
35. "Servants of Apostasy" by Carl McIntire, page 150.
36. "Perils Shadowing You and Your Family," page 3.
37. "A Fight To The Finish" by Billy James Hargis.
38. "The Christian Standard," Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 39 and 40. "Jesus, What Manner of Man," page 69, and "The Peril of Modernizing Jesus," page 31.
41. "The Christ-Like God," page 15.
42. Encyclopedia Biblica.
43. "Christian Fact and Modern Doubt," page 285.
44. "Therefore Stand," page 54.
45. "The Hope of the World," page 103.
46. "Emerging Christian Faith," page 200.
47. "Communism In The Churches" and "The Chronology of a Super-Church" by Billy James Hargis.
- 48, 49, and 50. "Communism In The Churches" by Billy James Hargis.

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Church, we find that it's  
not like the other Bible  
and we please tell me what  
you think about it will

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Dear [REDACTED]

I have received your letter of January 29, 1957, in which you make inquiry concerning the Federal Council of Churches.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that this Bureau is strictly a fact-gathering agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character or integrity of any organization or individual. I know you will understand the necessity for these rules and will not infer that we do or do not have the particular information in which you expressed interest.

Sincerely yours,

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FEB - 6 1957  
COMM - FBI

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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NOTE: Bufiles reflect certain derogatory information concerning the Federal Council of Churches, however, much of this data came from rival church groups. The New York Office made an investigation which was confined to contacts with informants in 1950 and developed no data indicating subversive activities on the part of persons affiliated with this organization. (100-50869)

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DATE 12/3/83 BY SP [signature]

JFS  
[signature]